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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

TWENTY-NINE VOLUMES.

—(27.)—

STATE PAPERS.

TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS;
FOREIGN REFUGEES;
REDUCTION OF LAGOS;
PROTESTANT BURIAL GROUND, MADRID.

Session

3 February — 1 July 1852.

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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1852.

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T R E A T Y

OF

FRIENDSHIP AND COMMERCE

BETWEEN

G R E A T B R I T A I N

AND

ABYSSINIA.

*Signed in the English and Amharic Languages, at Ennawga,
November 2, 1849.*

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1852.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

TREATY
OF
FRIENDSHIP AND COMMERCE,
BETWEEN
G R E A T B R I T A I N
AND
A B Y S S I N I A.

Signed in the English and Amharic languages, at Ennougá, November 2, 1849.

[Her Majesty's Ratification delivered to the Ras of Abyssinia, March 1, 1852.]

WHEREAS commerce is a source of great wealth and prosperity to all those nations who are firmly united in the bonds of reciprocal friendship: and whereas the conclusion of a Treaty of perpetual Amity and Commerce between Abyssinia and Great Britain, which has already been desired by their respective Sovereigns, would tend to the mutual advantage of both countries: and whereas it is desirable that the conditions should be specified whereupon the commercial intercourse betwixt the two nations should be conducted: Now it is hereby declared, done, and agreed as follows, between Walter Charles Metcalfe Plowden, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to His Majesty of Abyssinia, duly empowered to that effect by Her Britannic Majesty, and by His said Majesty of Abyssinia on the other part:

ARTICLE I.

A firm, free, and lasting friendship shall subsist between Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and her successors, on the one part, and His Majesty of Abyssinia and his successors, on the other part.

ARTICLE II.

For the purpose of preserving and strengthening the friendly relations subsisting between the two nations, His Majesty of Abyssinia and his successors shall receive and protect any Ambassador, Envoy, or Consul, whom Her Britannic Majesty or her successors may see fit to appoint; and shall preserve inviolate all the rights and privileges of such Ambassador, Envoy, or Consul.

ARTICLE III.

Her Britannic Majesty and her successors will, in the same manner, receive and protect any Ambassador, Envoy, or Consul, whom His Majesty of Abyssinia or his successors may see fit to appoint, and will equally preserve inviolate all the rights and privileges of such Ambassador, Envoy, or Consul.

ARTICLE IV.

His Majesty of Abyssinia engages to grant to the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, and to the produce and commerce of her dominions, all favours, privileges, advantages, or immunities, either as regards duties, imposts, or charges, or in any other respect whatsoever, which His Majesty of Abyssinia has already granted, or may hereafter grant, to the subjects, produce, or commerce of any other foreign country.

ARTICLE V.

An import duty of five for every hundred, and no more, may be levied and received by His Majesty of Abyssinia and his successors, upon all goods and merchandize imported by British subjects into the Kingdom of Abyssinia, for sale either therein or in the countries beyond.

ARTICLE VI.

This import duty of five for every hundred shall be assessed upon the current value of the merchandize at the market-place of Gondar, and shall be paid at the rate of five for every hundred, either in kind or in specie, at the option of the merchant.

ARTICLE VII.

When the said import duty shall have been duly paid, the importing merchant shall be at full liberty to dispose of his goods at any place or places within the territories of Abyssinia, without any licence being required for the removal of the same, and without any prohibition, restraint, or further duty or impost of any kind being imposed upon the buyer; and the importing merchant may, if he pleases, carry away such goods to any other country or place, without any licence being required for the removal of the same, and without restraint or molestation, or the payment of any further duty or impost whatever.

ARTICLE VIII.

British merchants shall be at liberty to purchase within the territories of Abyssinia all such commodities as they may think proper to buy, whether such commodities are the produce of those territories, or have been imported into those territories from other countries; and the said merchants may freely export the same without the payment of any duty whatever.

ARTICLE IX.

The subjects of His Majesty of Abyssinia shall have in the United Kingdom the advantages which are already enjoyed, or which may hereafter be enjoyed, by the subjects of the most favoured nation; and no higher or other duties shall be imposed on the importation into the United Kingdom, of goods the produce of Abyssinia, than are or shall be payable upon the like goods the produce of any other foreign country imported in like manner.

ARTICLE X.

A commercial intercourse shall be allowed and encouraged betwixt the subjects of Abyssinia and of the countries beyond that kingdom, on the one hand, and the subjects of Great Britain, on the other.

ARTICLE XI.

In order to increase and promote commerce between Abyssinia and Great Britain, His Majesty of Abyssinia and his successors shall encourage merchants of all nations to bring the produce of the interior of Africa into the dominions of Abyssinia.

ARTICLE XII.

With a like view, Her Britannic Majesty and her successors will protect British merchants in importing into Abyssinia such articles as may be needed therein.

ARTICLE XIII.

For the better security of merchants and their property, His Majesty of Abyssinia and his successors, and Her Britannic Majesty and her successors, will respectively, to the best of their power, endeavour to keep open and to secure the avenues of approach betwixt the sea-coast and Abyssinia.

ARTICLE XIV.

With a view to promote and encourage reciprocal intercourse between the subjects of the two nations respectively, His Majesty of Abyssinia engages, for himself and his successors, that no hindrance or molestation shall be offered to British travellers, whether residing within the territories of Abyssinia, or passing through them for the purpose of visiting the countries beyond; but such travellers shall be protected both as to their persons and as to their property.

ARTICLE XV.

The effects belonging to such travellers, and not intended for sale, shall not be liable to duty of any sort, and shall in every respect be held to be their personal property, and to be inviolable.

ARTICLE XVI.

The subjects of His Majesty of Abyssinia shall meet with no hindrance or obstruction whilst residing in any part of the dominions of Her Britannic Majesty, and shall not be prevented from proceeding beyond these dominions at their pleasure.

ARTICLE XVII.

His Majesty of Abyssinia agrees that in all cases when a British subject shall be accused of any crime committed in any part of His Majesty's dominions, the accused shall be tried and adjudged by the British Consul, or other officer duly appointed for that purpose by Her Britannic Majesty; and in all cases when disputes or differences shall arise between British subjects, or between British subjects and the subjects of His Majesty of Abyssinia, or between British subjects and the subjects of any other foreign Power, within the dominions of His Majesty of Abyssinia, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, or other duly appointed officer, shall have power to hear and decide the same without any interference, molestation, or hindrance, on the part of any authority of Abyssinia, either before, during, or after the litigation.

ARTICLE XVIII.

If any British subject shall die in the territories of His Majesty of Abyssinia, the British Consul, or in his absence, his representative, shall have the right to

take charge of the papers and property of the deceased, for the benefit of his lawful heirs and creditors, without any interference on the part of the Abyssinian authorities.

ARTICLE XIX.

Finally, it is agreed, that upon a strict observance of all the foregoing Articles and Conditions, shall depend the continuance of a lasting and permanent friendship between the contracting Sovereigns.

In witness whereof, the present Treaty has been signed and sealed by the above-named Walter Charles Metcalfe Plowden, Esquire, and by His Majesty of Abyssinia.

Done at Ennowga, the second day of November, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, corresponding with the Abyssinian date the twenty-fourth day of Tekumt, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-two.

WALTER PLOWDEN. (L.S.)

[Signature of the Ras.]

[Seal of the Emperor.]

[Seal of the Ras.]

ABYSSINIA.

Treaty of Friendship and Commerce
between Great Britain and Abyssinia.

*Signed in the English and Amharic languages, at
Ennougá, November 2, 1849.*

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. June 1852.*

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND THE

KING OF THE BELGIANS,

RELATIVE TO

F I S H E R Y.

Signed at London, March 22, 1852.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1852.

LONDON :
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

CONVENTION
BETWEEN
HER MAJESTY
AND
THE KING OF THE BELGIANS,
RELATIVE TO
FISHERY.

Signed at London, March 22, 1852.

[*Ratifications exchanged at London, April 7, 1852.*]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, having judged it expedient to conclude, in completion of the Treaty signed between them on the 27th of October, 1851, a Convention relating to Fishery, have for that purpose named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say :

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable James Howard, Earl of Malmesbury, Viscount Fitzharris, Baron Malmesbury, a Peer of the United Kingdom, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and the Right Honourable Joseph Warner Henley, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, and President of the Committee of Privy Council for Affairs of Trade and Foreign Plantations;

And His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the Sieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty, decorated with the Iron Cross, Commander of the Order of Leopold, Grand Cross of the Order of Charles III of Spain, of the Order of the Ernestine Branch of Saxony, of

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, ayant jugé à propos de conclure, comme complément du Traité intervenu entre eux le 27 Octobre, 1851, une Convention concernant la Pêche, ont nommé à cet effet pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir :

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Très Honorable Jacques Howard, Comte de Malmesbury, Vicomte Fitzharris, Baron Malmesbury, Pair du Royaume Uni, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, et Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères; et le Très Honorable Joseph Warner Henley, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, Membre du Parlement, et Président du Comité du Conseil Privé pour les Affaires de Commerce et des Colonies;

Et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, le Sieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique, décoré de la Croix de Fer, Commandeur de l'Ordre de Léopold, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Charles III d'Espagne, de l'Ordre de la Branche Ernestine de Saxe, de la Tour et de

B

the Tower and Sword, of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, Commander of the Legion of Honour, &c. ;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full-powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles :

ARTICLE I.

Belgian subjects shall enjoy, in regard to Fishery along the coast of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the treatment of the most favoured foreign nation.

In like manner, British subjects shall enjoy, in regard to Fishery along the coast of the Kingdom of Belgium, the treatment of the most favoured foreign nation.

ARTICLE II.

Fish of British taking imported from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, under the British or Belgian flag, shall be admitted into Belgium at equal import duties, such duties in no case exceeding the following, that is to say :

		Frs. c.
<i>Herrings.</i>	Pickled or drysalted, per barrel of 150 kilog. gross weight	13 0
	Others, the thousand ..	8 0
<i>Lobsters.</i>	Destined for the national beds, per 100 francs value ..	6 0
	Others, per 100 frs. value ..	12 0
<i>Oysters.</i>	Destined for the national beds, per 100 francs value ..	1 0
	Others, per 100 frs. value ..	12 0
<i>Cod.</i>	Pickled or drysalted, per barrel of 150 to 160 kilog. gross weight	22 50
<i>Stockfish.</i>	Per 100 kilog.	1 0

ARTICLE III.

The present Convention is concluded for a period of seven years, and it shall remain in force after that period until the expiration of twelve months after either of the High Contracting Parties shall have notified to the other its intention of terminating the same ; each Party reserving to itself the right of making such notification to the other at the end of the seven years, or at any subsequent time.

It shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London on the 10th of April next, or sooner if

l'Epée, de St. Maurice et St. Lazare, Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur, &c. ;

Lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins-pouvoirs respectifs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, ont arrêté les Articles suivans :

ARTICLE I.

Les sujets Belges jouiront, pour la Pêche le long des côtes du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, du traitement de la nation étrangère la plus favorisée.

De même, les sujets Britanniques jouiront, pour la Pêche le long des côtes du Royaume de Belgique, du traitement de la nation étrangère la plus favorisée.

ARTICLE II.

Les poissons de pêche Anglaise, importés du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, sous pavillon Britannique ou Belge, seront admis en Belgique à des droits d'entrée égaux, ne dépassant en aucun cas les chiffres indiqués ci-après, savoir :

		Frs. c.
<i>Herrings.</i>	En saumure ou au sel sec, la tonne de 150 kilog. poids brut	13 0
	Autres, les 1000 pièces ..	8 0
<i>Homards.</i>	En destination des parcs, les 100 francs	6 0
	Autres, les 100 francs ..	12 0
<i>Huitres.</i>	En destination des parcs, les 100 francs	1 0
	Autres, les 100 francs ..	12 0
<i>Morue.</i>	En saumure ou au sel sec, la tonne de 150 à 160 kilog. poids brut	22 50
<i>Stockfish.</i>	Les 100 kilog.	1 0

ARTICLE III.

La présente Convention est conclue pour le terme de sept ans, et elle demeurera en vigueur au-delà de ce terme jusqu'à l'expiration de douze mois après que l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura annoncé à l'autre son intention de la faire cesser ; chacune des Parties se réservant le droit de faire à l'autre une telle déclaration au bout des sept années, ou à toute autre date ultérieure.

Elle sera ratifiée, et les ratifications seront échangées à Londres le 10 Avril prochain, ou plus tôt si faire se peut.

possible. It shall come into operation on the 10th of April next.

Elle entrera en vigueur à partir du 10 Avril prochain.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signée, et y ont apposé le cachet de leurs armes.

Done at London, the twenty-second day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

Fait à Londres, le vingt-deux Mars, de l'an de grâce mil huit cent cinquante-deux.

(L.S.) MALMESBURY.

(L.S.) MALMESBURY.

(L.S.) J. W. HENLEY.

(L.S.) J. W. HENLEY.

(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE
WEYER.

(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE
WEYER.

Fishery Convention.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the King
of the Belgians, relative to Fishery.

Signed at London, March 22, 1852.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1852.*

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

T R E A T Y

OF

COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND THE

KING OF THE BELGIANS.

Signed at London, October 27, 1851.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1852.

LONDON:
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TREATY
OF
COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION
BETWEEN
HER MAJESTY
AND
THE KING OF THE BELGIANS.

Signed at London, October 27, 1851.

[Ratifications exchanged at London, April 7, 1852.]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, being equally animated by the desire to facilitate and extend the relations of commerce and navigation between their respective dominions; and being desirous, with a view to so beneficial an object, to remove, as far as may be possible at the present moment, the obstacles which impede the commercial relations between the two countries, have resolved to conclude a Treaty for that purpose, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable Henry John Viscount Palmerston, Baron Temple, a Peer of Ireland, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and the Right Honourable Henry Labouchere, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, and President of the Committee of Privy Council for Affairs of Trade and Foreign Plantations;

SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, animés d'un égal désir de faciliter et d'étendre les rapports de commerce et de navigation entre leurs états respectifs; et voulant, pour arriver à un but si utile, faire disparaître, autant qu'il est immédiatement possible, les obstacles qui entravent les relations commerciales entre les deux pays, ont résolu de conclure un Traité à cet effet, et ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir:

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Très Honorable Henri Jean Vicomte Palmerston, Baron Temple, Pair d'Irlande, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, Membre du Parlement, Chevalier Grand-Croix du Très Honorable Ordre du Bain, et Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères; et le Très Honorable Henri Labouchere, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, Membre du Parlement, et Président du Comité du Conseil Privé pour les Affaires de Commerce et des Colonies;

And His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the Sieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty, decorated with the Iron Cross, Commander of the Order of Leopold, Grand Cross of the Order of Charles III of Spain, of the Order of the Ernestine Branch of Saxony, of the Tower and Sword, of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, Commander of the Legion of Honour, &c.;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles:

ARTICLE I.

There shall be reciprocal liberty of commerce between all the dominions of the two High Contracting Parties; and the subjects of each of them shall, throughout the whole extent of the territories of the other, enjoy the same rights, privileges, liberties, favours, immunities, and exemptions, in matters of commerce, which are or may be enjoyed by native subjects.

ARTICLE II.

In regard to the duties depending on the nationality of vessels, it is agreed, that goods of every kind, without distinction as to origin, imported into Belgium directly from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, its colonies and possessions, under the British flag, shall enjoy the same exemptions, repayments, bounties, or other favours, as if imported under the Belgian flag, and shall not pay respectively any other duties, nor be subject to any other formalities, than if imported under the Belgian flag; except in the case which is provided for in Article V hereinafter.

ARTICLE III.

In regard to the duties depending upon the place from whence vessels have come, it is agreed that goods of every kind, without distinction as to origin, imported into Belgium directly from the United Kingdom

Et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, le Sieur Sylvain Van de Weyer, Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique, décoré de la Croix de Fer, Commandeur de l'Ordre de Léopold, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Charles III d'Espagne, de l'Ordre de la Branche Ernestine de Saxe, de la Tour et de l'Epée, de St. Maurice et St. Lazare, Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur, &c.;

Lesquels, après s'être réciproquement communiqué leurs pleins-pouvoirs respectifs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des Articles suivans:

ARTICLE I.

Il y aura liberté réciproque de commerce entre tous les états des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes; et les sujets de chacune d'elles, dans toute l'étendue des territoires de l'autre, jouiront des mêmes droits, privilèges, libertés, faveurs, immunités, et exemptions, en matière de commerce, dont jouissent ou jouiront les nationaux.

ARTICLE II.

En ce qui concerne le droit de pavillon, il est convenu que les marchandises de toute espèce, sans distinction d'origine, importées directement en Belgique du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, de ses colonies et possessions, sous pavillon Britannique, jouiront des mêmes exemptions, restitutions, primes, ou autres faveurs, ne payeront respectivement d'autres droits, et ne seront assujetties à d'autres formalités, que si l'importation avait lieu sous pavillon Belge; sauf dans le cas indiqué dans l'Article V ci-après.

ARTICLE III.

En ce qui concerne le droit de provenance, il est convenu que les marchandises de toute espèce, sans distinction d'origine, importées directement en Belgique du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Ir-

of Great Britain and Ireland, its colonies and possessions, under the British flag, shall be admitted at the same rate of duty as if imported under the Belgian flag from the place or in the manner most privileged under the General Tariff of Belgium; except in regard to the goods and in the cases specified in Article V hereinafter.

It is understood that the goods to which the present and the preceding Article apply, must have been actually laden in the ports of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or of its colonies and possessions.

ARTICLE IV.

Goods of every kind, without distinction as to origin, imported into Belgium from elsewhere than the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, its colonies and possessions, under the British flag, shall enjoy the same exemptions, bounties, or other favours, as if imported under the Belgian flag, and shall not be subject to any other formalities, nor pay any other duties, than if imported under the Belgian flag; except in regard to the goods and in the cases specified in Article V hereinafter.

ARTICLE V.

The stipulations of the three preceding Articles shall not be applicable to the goods and in the cases hereinafter specified, that is to say:

1. So far as relates to the stipulations of Articles III and IV,

In regard to Furniture-Woods and
Dye-Woods,

Rice,
Sugar,
Coffee,
Tobacco,
Cotton,

only when the importation shall take place under the Belgian flag directly from a transatlantic country.

And as regards Fruits,
Olive Oil,
Raw Sulphur,

only when the importation shall take place under the Belgian flag directly from the place of production.

lande, de ses colonies et possessions, sous pavillon Britannique, seront admises aux droits des importations effectuées sous pavillon Belge, du lieu ou selon le mode le plus privilégié par le Tarif Général de la Belgique; sauf pour les marchandises et dans les cas indiqués dans l'Article V ci-après.

Il est entendu que les marchandises auxquelles s'applique l'Article actuel et le précédent, devront avoir été réellement chargées dans les ports du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, ou de ses colonies et possessions.

ARTICLE IV.

Toutes les marchandises, sans distinction d'origine, importées en Belgique d'ailleurs que du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, de ses colonies et possessions, sous pavillon Britannique, jouiront des mêmes exemptions, primes, ou autres faveurs, ne seront pas assujetties à d'autres formalités, et ne payeront d'autres droits, que si l'importation avait lieu sous pavillon Belge; sauf pour les marchandises et dans les cas indiqués dans l'Article V ci-après.

ARTICLE V.

Il sera dérogé aux dispositions des trois Articles précédens pour les marchandises et dans les cas ci-après indiqués, savoir:

1°. Quant aux dispositions des Articles III et IV,

Pour les Bois d'Ebénisterie et de
Teinture,

le Riz,
le Sucre,
le Café,
le Tabac,
le Coton,

seulement lorsque l'importation aura lieu directement d'un pays transatlantique, sous pavillon Belge.

Et pour les Fruits,
l'Huile d'Olive,
le Soufre brut,

seulement lorsque l'importation aura lieu directement d'un lieu de production, sous pavillon Belge.

2. So far as relates to the stipulations of Articles II, III, and IV,

In regard to Salt.

But with regard to salt, His Majesty the King of the Belgians engages,

1st. To reduce immediately by two-thirds the duty actually levied on raw salt imported from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, under the British flag.

2nd. To assimilate spring salt imported from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland into Belgium to raw salt, as regards duty of customs, duty of excise, exemption from excise in case it is destined for manufactories and warehousing. In order to enjoy this advantage, spring-salt must be accompanied by a certificate delivered by a Belgian Consular Agent, proving its origin from an English mineral spring.

3rd. To take off the prohibition which applies to the transit through the Belgian territory of salt imported under the British or the Belgian flag.

ARTICLE VI.

Goods imported from a transatlantic country, under the British flag, shall pay the same duties, whether they shall have been laden in a transatlantic warehousing port, or in the transatlantic country of production.

ARTICLE VII.

The repayment, by Belgium, of the duty levied by the Government of the Netherlands on the navigation of the Scheldt, under the 3rd paragraph of Article IX of the Treaty of the 19th April, 1839, is guaranteed to British vessels.

ARTICLE VIII.

Goods of every kind, the importation of which into the ports of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, its colonies and possessions, is or shall be legally permitted in British vessels, may likewise be imported in Belgian vessels, without being subject to any other or higher duties, of whatever denomination,

2°. Quant aux dispositions des Articles II, III, et IV,

Pour le Sel.

Mais, quant au sel, Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges s'engage,

1°. A réduire immédiatement des deux tiers le droit qui frappe actuellement le sel brut importé du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, sous pavillon Britannique.

2°. A assimiler le sel de source importé du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande en Belgique au sel brut, pour ce qui concerne le droit de douane, le droit d'accise, l'exemption d'accise en cas de destination aux fabriques, et l'entreposage. Pour jouir de cette faveur, le sel de source devra être accompagné d'un certificat délivré par un Agent Consulaire Belge, et constatant son origine de source minérale Anglaise.

3°. A lever la prohibition qui frappe le transit par le territoire Belge, du sel importé sous pavillon Britannique ou Belge.

ARTICLE VI.

Les marchandises importées d'un pays transatlantique, sous pavillon Britannique, acquitteront les mêmes droits, qu'elles aient été chargées dans un entrepôt transatlantique, ou dans le pays de production transatlantique.

ARTICLE VII.

Le remboursement, par la Belgique, du droit perçu sur la navigation de l'Escaut par le Gouvernement des Pays-Bas, en vertu du paragraphe 3 de l'Article IX du Traité du 19 Avril, 1839, est garanti aux navires Britanniques.

ARTICLE VIII.

Les marchandises de toute espèce, dont l'importation dans les ports du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, ses colonies et possessions, est ou sera légalement permise sur des bâtimens Britanniques, pourront également y être importées sur des bâtimens Belges, sans être assujetties à d'autres ou

than if such goods were imported in national vessels.

à de plus forts droits, de quelque dénomination que ce soit, que si les mêmes marchandises étaient importées sur des bâtimens nationaux.

ARTICLE IX.

In all that regards exportations, without distinction as to place from whence arriving or as to destination, and in all that regards the bounties, facilities, and drawbacks which the legislation of the two countries has established, or may hereafter establish, the two High Contracting Parties reciprocally insure to each other national treatment.

ARTICLE IX.

Pour tout ce qui a trait aux exportations, sans distinction de provenance ou de destination, et pour tout ce qui regarde les primes, facilités, et *drawbacks*, que la législation des deux pays a établis, ou pourrait établir par la suite, les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes s'assurent réciproquement le traitement national.

ARTICLE X.

Articles of every kind arriving from Great Britain, or forwarded to that country, and crossing Belgium by the railroads of the State, shall be exempt from all transit duty; and the prohibition which in Belgium still applies to the transit of some of those articles, is removed.

The only exceptions to this general rule are in regard to gunpowder and iron; and in regard to the transmission to France of linen thread and tissues, and of coal.

It is understood that the senders will have to conform, generally, and without distinction of nationality, to the regulations which are or may be prescribed by the Belgian Administration for the prevention of fraud upon the excise.

Belgian commerce shall enjoy in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with regard to transit, the treatment of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE X.

Les objets de toute nature venant de la Grande Bretagne, ou expédiés vers ce pays, et traversant la Belgique par les chemins-de-fer de l'Etat, seront exempts de tout droit de transit; et la prohibition qui frappe encore en Belgique le transit de quelques-uns de ces articles, est levée.

Il n'est fait exception à cette règle générale que pour la poudre à tirer et les fers; et pour l'expédition vers la France, des fils et tissus de lin, et de la houille.

Il est entendu que les expéditeurs auront à se conformer, généralement et sans distinction de nationalité, aux mesures prescrites, ou à prescrire, par l'Administration Belge, pour empêcher la fraude de l'accise.

Le commerce Belge jouira, pour le transit dans le Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée.

ARTICLE XI.

It is expressly understood, that the preceding Articles are not applicable to the coasting trade, which each Contracting Party reserves to itself, and will regulate according to its own laws.

Neither are they applicable to the exemptions from duty, nor to the bounties which may be granted in the dominions of the High Contracting Parties to national fishery, carried on according to the regu-

ARTICLE XI.

Il est expressément entendu que les Articles précédens ne sont pas applicables au commerce de cabotage, que chaque Partie Contractante se réserve à elle-même, et règlera d'après ses propres lois.

Il en est de même pour ce qui concerne les exemptions de droits et les primes qui pourraient, dans les états des Hautes Parties Contractantes, être accordées à la pêche nationale exercée selon les règle-

lations of each country. With this exception, the two flags shall be assimilated in regard to the importation of fish of all kinds.

mens de chaque pays. Hors ce cas, néanmoins, les deux pavillons seront assimilés pour l'importation des poissons de toute espèce.

ARTICLE XII.

No duties of tonnage, harbour, light-house, pilotage, quarantine, or other similar or corresponding duties, of whatever nature or under whatever denomination, levied for the profit or in the name of the Government, public functionaries, *communes*, corporations, or establishments of whatever kind, shall be imposed in the ports of either country, upon the vessels of the other country, from whatever port or place arriving, which shall not be equally imposed in the like cases on national vessels.

ARTICLE XII.

Aucun droit de tonnage, de port, de phare, de pilotage, de quarantaine, ou autres droits semblables ou équivalens, de quelque nature ou sous quelque dénomination que ce soit, perçu au profit ou au nom du Gouvernement, des fonctionnaires publics, des communes, corporations, ou établissemens quelconques, ne sera imposé dans les ports de chacun des deux pays, sur les navires de l'autre nation, arrivant d'un port ou endroit quelconque, qui ne soit pas également imposé en pareil cas sur des navires nationaux.

ARTICLE XIII.

All vessels which according to the laws of Great Britain are to be deemed British vessels, and all vessels which according to the laws of Belgium are to be deemed Belgian vessels, shall, for the purposes of this Treaty, be deemed British vessels and Belgian vessels respectively.

ARTICLE XIII.

Tous les navires qui d'après les lois de la Grande Bretagne sont considérés comme navires Britanniques, et tous les navires qui d'après les lois de la Belgique sont considérés comme navires Belges, seront, quant aux effets du présent Traité, déclarés respectivement navires Britanniques et navires Belges.

ARTICLE XIV.

In all that regards the stationing, the loading, and unloading of vessels in the ports, basins, docks, roadsteads, harbours, or rivers of the two countries, no privilege shall be granted to national vessels, which shall not be equally granted to vessels of the other country; the intention of the Contracting Parties being, that in this respect also, the respective vessels shall be treated on the footing of perfect reciprocity.

ARTICLE XIV.

En tout ce qui concerne le placement des navires, leur chargement et déchargement dans les ports, bassins, docks, rades, hâvres, ou rivières des deux états, il ne sera accordé aucun privilège aux navires nationaux, qui ne le soit également à ceux de l'autre état; la volonté des Parties Contractantes étant que, sous ce rapport aussi, les bâtimens respectifs soient traités sur le pied d'une parfaite égalité.

ARTICLE XV.

The vessels of each of the two countries shall be at liberty either to discharge the whole of their cargo at one of the ports of the dominions of the other Contracting Party, or to discharge part of their cargo at one port, and then to proceed with

ARTICLE XV.

Les bâtimens de l'un des deux états pourront décharger en totalité leur cargaison dans un des ports des états de l'autre Partie Contractante, ou décharger une partie de leur cargaison dans un port, et se rendre ensuite, avec le

the remainder to other ports of the said dominions, according as the captain, proprietor, or other person duly authorized to act in the port as agent for the vessel and cargo, shall consider advisable.

reste, dans les autres ports du même état, selon que le capitaine, le propriétaire, ou telle autre personne qui serait dûment autorisée dans le port à agir dans l'intérêt du bâtiment ou de la cargaison, le jugera convenable.

ARTICLE XVI.

If any vessel of war or merchant vessel of either of the two countries should be wrecked upon the coasts of the other, such vessel, or any parts thereof, and all furniture and appurtenances belonging thereunto, as well as all goods and merchandize which shall be saved therefrom, or the proceeds thereof, if sold, shall be faithfully restored to the proprietors or to their agents, on being claimed by them. In case there should be no such proprietors or agents upon the spot, the said articles and goods, or the proceeds thereof, as well as all the papers found on board of any such vessel, shall be delivered to the British or Belgian Consul in whose district the wreck shall have taken place; and such Consul, proprietors, or agents, shall not be called upon to pay any charge but the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property, and the rate of salvage which would be equally payable in the like case of a wreck of a national vessel. The goods and merchandize saved from the wreck shall not be subject to the established duties, unless cleared for consumption.

ARTICLE XVI.

S'il arrivait que quelque vaisseau de guerre ou navire marchand de l'un des deux états fit naufrage sur les côtes de l'autre, ces bâtiments, ou ses parties ou débris, ses agrès, et tous les objets qui y appartiendront, ainsi que tous les effets et marchandises qui en auront été sauvés, ou le produit de leur vente, en seront fidèlement rendus aux propriétaires ou à leurs ayants-droits, sur leur réclamation. Dans le cas où ceux-ci se trouveraient absents, les dits objets, marchandises, ou leurs produits, seront consignés, ainsi que tous les papiers trouvés à bord de ce bâtiment, au Consul Britannique ou Belge, dans le district duquel le naufrage aura eu lieu; et il ne sera exigé, soit du Consul, soit des propriétaires ou ayants-droits, que le paiement des dépenses faites pour la conservation de la propriété, et la taxe de sauvetage qui serait également payée en pareille circonstance par un bâtiment national. Les marchandises et effets sauvés du naufrage ne seront assujettis aux droits établis, qu'autant qu'ils seraient déclarés pour la consommation.

ARTICLE XVII.

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall have the right to name Consuls for the protection of trade in the dominions and territories of the other Party; and the Consuls who may be so appointed shall enjoy, within the territories of each Party, all the privileges, exemptions, and immunities which are or may be granted in those territories to agents of the same rank and character appointed by or authorized to act for the Government of the most favoured nation.

Before any Consul can act as such, he must, however, in the usual form be approved and admitted by the Government of the country to which he is sent; and each of the two High

ARTICLE XVII.

Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura le droit de nommer des Consuls pour la protection du commerce dans les états ou territoires de l'autre Partie; et les Consuls qui seront nommés ainsi, jouiront, dans les territoires de chaque Partie, de tous les privilèges, exemptions, et immunités qui sont ou pourront être accordés dans ces états aux agents du même rang et caractère, nommés ou autorisés par le Gouvernement de la nation la plus favorisée.

Avant que quelque Consul puisse agir comme tel, il devra être approuvé et admis, dans les formes usitées, par le Gouvernement auprès duquel il est envoyé; et chacune des

Contracting Parties shall have the right to except from the residence of Consuls, any particular places which either of them may judge proper to be excepted.

Hautes Parties Contractantes aura la faculté d'excepter de la résidence des Consuls, tels endroits spéciaux que chacune d'elles pourra juger à propos d'excepter.

ARTICLE XVIII.

The subjects of either of the two High Contracting Parties residing in the dominions of the other, shall have the same liberty as natives to manage their own affairs themselves, or to commit them to the management of any other persons, as brokers, factors, agents, or interpreters; they shall not be restrained in their choice, and shall not be obliged to pay any salary or remuneration to any person whom they shall not choose to employ in those capacities: buyers and sellers being at perfect liberty to bargain together, and to fix the price of any goods or merchandize imported or destined for exportation, on condition of observing the regulations and the customs laws of the country.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Les sujets de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes résidant dans les Etats de l'autre, seront respectivement libres de régler, comme les nationaux, leurs affaires par eux-mêmes, ou de les confier aux soins de toutes autres personnes, telles que courtiers, facteurs, agents, ou interprètes; ils ne pourront être contraints dans leur choix, et ils ne seront tenus à payer aucun salaire, ni aucune rétribution à ceux qu'ils n'auront pas jugé à propos d'employer à cet effet: étant absolument facultatif aux vendeurs et acheteurs de contracter ensemble leur marché, et de fixer le prix de toutes denrées ou marchandises importées ou destinées à l'exportation, sous la condition de se conformer aux réglemens et aux lois des douanes du pays.

ARTICLE XIX.

The present Treaty shall be in force for seven years from the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two;* and further, until the end of twelve months after either of the two Contracting Parties shall have given notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same; each of the Contracting Parties reserving to itself the right of giving such notice to the other at the end of the said term of seven years, or at any subsequent time.

ARTICLE XIX.

Le présent Traité sera en vigueur pendant sept ans à compter du premier Janvier, mil huit cent cinquante deux;* et au delà de ce terme, jusqu'à l'expiration de douze mois après que l'une des deux Parties Contractantes aura annoncé à l'autre son intention de le faire cesser; chacune des Parties Contractantes se réservant le droit de faire à l'autre une telle déclaration au bout des sept années susmentionnées, ou à toute date ultérieure.

ARTICLE XX.

The present Treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

ARTICLE XX.

Le présent Traité sera ratifié, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Londres avant le premier Janvier, mil huit cent cinquante-deux.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé, et y ont apposé les cachets de leurs armes.

* Altered to April 10, 1852, by the annexed Declaration. (See page 11.)

Done at London, the twenty-seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

(L.S.) PALMERSTON.

(L.S.) HENRY LABOUCHERE.

(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE
WEYER.

Fait à Londres, le vingt-sept Octobre, de l'an de grâce mil huit cent cinquante et un.

(L.S.) PALMERSTON.

(L.S.) HENRY LABOUCHERE.

(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE
WEYER.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE.

The Ionian Islands being under the protection of Her Britannic Majesty, the subjects and vessels of those islands shall enjoy, in the dominions of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, all the advantages which are granted to the subjects and vessels of Great Britain by the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, as soon as the Government of the Ionian Islands shall have agreed to grant to the subjects and vessels of His Majesty the King of the Belgians the same advantages which are granted in those islands to the subjects and vessels of Her Britannic Majesty: it being understood, that in order to prevent abuses, every Ionian vessel claiming the benefits of that Treaty shall be furnished with a patent signed by the Lord High Commissioner of Her Britannic Majesty, or by his representative.

The present Additional Article shall have the same force and effect as if it had been inserted, word for word, in the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day. It shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at the same time as the ratifications of the Treaty.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

ARTICLE ADDITIONNEL.

Les Iles Ioniennes se trouvant sous la protection de Sa Majesté Britannique, les sujets et les navires de ces îles jouiront, dans les états de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, de tous les avantages qui sont accordés aux sujets et aux navires de la Grande Bretagne, par le Traité de Commerce et de Navigation conclu en date d'aujourd'hui entre Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, aussitôt que le Gouvernement des Iles Ioniennes sera convenu d'accorder aux sujets et aux navires de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges les mêmes avantages qu'il accorde dans ces îles aux sujets et aux navires de Sa Majesté Britannique: bien entendu toutefois, que pour prévenir des abus, tout navire Ionien qui sera dans le cas de réclamer les bienfaits de ce Traité, sera muni d'une patente signée par le Lord Haut Commissaire de Sa Majesté Britannique, ou par celui qui le représente.

Le présent Article Additionnel aura la même force et valeur que s'il était inséré, mot à mot, dans le Traité de Commerce et de Navigation signé aujourd'hui. Il sera ratifié, et les ratifications en seront échangées en même temps que celles du Traité même.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé, et y ont apposé les cachets de leurs armes.

Done at London, the twenty-seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

(L.S.) PALMERSTON.
(L.S.) HENRY LABOUCHERE.
(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE
WEYER.

Fait à Londres, le vingt-sept Octobre, l'an de grâce mil huit cent cinquante et un.

(L.S.) PALMERSTON.
(L.S.) HENRY LABOUCHERE.
(L.S.) SYLVAIN VAN DE
WEYER.

Declaration made on the exchange of the Ratifications of the preceding Treaty.

Declaration.

IN proceeding to the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the Belgians, which was signed at London on the 27th of October, 1851, the Undersigned, Plenipotentiaries of Her Britannic Majesty and of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, have received the commands of their respective Sovereigns to declare as follows, with regard to the stipulations respecting Salt, which are contained in Article V of the said Treaty :—

1. British spring salt shall be considered as raw salt, on importation into Belgium, only in those cases in which the legislation of Belgium permits the granting of exemption from excise. Those cases, in the present state of things, are :

- a. Destination to manufactories of chemical productions.
- b. Destination to the manuring of land.
- c. Destination to the feeding of cattle.
- d. Destination to the curing of fish.

2. If French salt refined in Belgium should, after the 10th of August, 1852, continue to enjoy a deduction of more than seven per cent. from the general duty of excise, British salt refined in Belgium shall, from and after the same date, enjoy a deduction from the excise, which shall not be inferior by more than seven per cent. to the deduction granted to French salt.

Déclaration.

EN procédant à l'échange des ratifications du Traité de Commerce et de Navigation entre Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, qui a été signé à Londres le 27 Octobre, 1851, les Soussignés, Plénipotentiaires de Sa Majesté Britannique et de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, ont reçu les ordres de leurs Souverains respectifs de faire la déclaration suivante, par rapport aux stipulations concernant le Sel, qui sont contenues dans l'Article V du dit Traité :—

1. Le sel de source Britannique ne sera considéré comme sel brut, à l'importation en Belgique, que dans les cas où la législation Belge permet d'accorder l'exemption de l'accise. Ces cas sont, dans l'état actuel des choses :

- a. La destination aux fabriques de produits chimiques.
- b. La destination à l'amendement des terres.
- c. La destination à l'alimentation du bétail.
- d. La destination à la salaison du poisson.

2. Si le sel Français raffiné en Belgique continue, après le 10 Août, 1852, à jouir d'une déduction de plus de sept pour cent du droit général de l'accise, le sel Britannique raffiné en Belgique jouira, à partir de la même époque, d'une déduction de l'accise qui ne pourra être inférieure de plus de sept pour cent à la déduction accordée au sel Français.

3. The British flag is assimilated to the French flag in regard to the transport of salt from France into Belgium.

3. Le pavillon Britannique est assimilé au pavillon Français pour le transport du sel, de France en Belgique.

4. There shall be annexed to the present Declaration an explanation of the conditions necessary in order that British salt may enjoy the advantages conceded to it, and of the formalities which must be complied with for the same purpose.

4. Il sera annexée à la présente Déclaration une explication des conditions nécessaires pour que le sel Britannique jouisse des avantages qui lui sont assurés, et des formalités qui devront être remplies dans le même but.

The Undersigned further declare that the Treaty of the 27th October, 1851, shall be carried into operation on either side, from and after the 10th of April, 1852.

Les Soussignés déclarent en outre, que le Traité du 27 Octobre, 1851, sera mis à exécution de part et d'autre, à partir du 10 Avril, 1852.

The ratifications of the Treaty of the 27th of October, 1851, are exchanged subject to the stipulations of the present Declaration, which shall be considered as forming an integral part of the said Treaty.

Les ratifications du Traité du 27 Octobre, 1851, sont échangées sauf les stipulations de la présente Déclaration, qui seront considérées comme formant partie intégrante du dit Traité.

Done at London, the seventh day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

Fait à Londres, le sept Avril, mil huit cent cinquante-deux.

MALMESBURY.

MALMESBURY.

J. W. HENLEY.

J. W. HENLEY.

SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

Explanation annexed to the Declaration of April 7, 1852.

Explication annexée à la Déclaration du 7 Avril, 1852.

IN order that British spring salt may enjoy the advantages which are conceded to it, it must be—

POUR jouir des avantages qui lui sont attribués, le sel de source Britannique devra—

1. Accompanied by a certificate of origin delivered by the Belgian Consular Agent residing in the locality of its production.

1. Etre accompagné d'un certificat d'origine délivré par l'Agent Consulaire Belge placé sur les lieux de production.

2. Declared, on its entry into Belgium, for one of those destinations which enjoy exemption from excise; and the formalities prescribed for such cases by the law of Belgium must be fulfilled. Those formalities shall be for British spring salt the same as for the raw salt of other countries destined for the same uses.

2. Etre déclaré, à l'entrée en Belgique, pour l'une des destinations qui jouissent de l'exemption de l'accise, en remplissant les formalités prescrites en pareils cas par la législation Belge; formalités qui seront pour le sel de source Britannique, les mêmes que pour les sels bruts d'autres pays destinés aux mêmes usages.

On compliance with these two conditions, British spring salt shall be admitted free of import duty, if imported under the Belgian flag, and at the duty of fr. 1.40 per 100 kilogrammes, if imported under the British flag; and it shall, moreover, be exempted from duty of excise.

Moyennant ces deux conditions, le sel de source Britannique sera admis en franchise de droit d'entrée s'il a été importé sous pavillon Belge, et au droit de fr. 1.40 en principal par 100 kilogrammes, s'il a été importé sous pavillon Britannique; et il sera, de plus, exempté du droit d'accise.

Persons shall be at liberty to warehouse British spring salt on the same conditions which are imposed on the warehousing of raw salt properly so called; and in that case, the formalities above specified shall not be required until it is taken out of bond.

British spring salt forwarded in transit by the railways of the State in Belgium, either directly, or through the bonded warehouses of the country, and whether imported by British ships or by Belgian ships, shall be free from all duty of import, excise, or transit, as well as from all process of alteration; subject, however, to the measures to be taken by the Belgian Administration for the prevention of fraud; which measures shall be the same for British salt as for all other salt.

MALMESBURY.
J. W. HENLEY.
SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

Les intéressés seront libres de mettre le sel de source Britannique en entrepôt, aux mêmes conditions qui sont imposées à l'entreposage du sel brut proprement dit; et, en ce cas, les formalités ci-dessus indiquées ne seront exigées qu'à la sortie d'entrepôt.

Le sel de source Britannique expédié en transit par les chemins de fer de l'Etat en Belgique, soit directement, soit en passant par les entrepôts du pays, et qu'il ait été importé par navires Britanniques ou par navires Belges, sera exempt de tout droit d'entrée, d'accise, ou de transit, ainsi que de toute dénaturation; sauf les mesures à prendre par l'Administration Belge pour prévenir la fraude; mesures qui seront les mêmes pour le sel Britannique que pour tout autre.

MALMESBURY.
J. W. HENLEY.
SYLVAIN VAN DE WEYER.

BELGIUM.

TREATY of Commerce and Navigation between Her Majesty and the King of the Belgians. Signed at London, October 27, 1851.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1852.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

ORDINANCES

ISSUED

IN THE YEARS **1850** AND **1852**

BY THE

AUTHORITIES IN CHINA.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 25, 1852.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

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No. 1.

An Ordinance to explain Ordinance No. 9 of 1845.

An Ordinance for Her Majesty's Subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the Coast of China.

Anno Decimo Tertio Victoriæ Reginae.—No. 1 of 1850.

BY his Excellency Samuel George Bonham, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Colony of Hong-Kong and its dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong.

An Ordinance to explain the Colonial Ordinance No. 9 of 1845, intituled "An Ordinance to invest the Supreme Court of Hong-Kong with a summary jurisdiction in certain cases;" and also the Colonial Ordinance No. 3 of 1849, passed to amend the said Ordinance No. 9 of 1845; and to amend and explain the Ordinance No. 3 of 1847, intituled "An Ordinance to authorize Her Majesty's Consular Officers to adjudicate in civil actions;" and also to make provision for certain causes of civil action or complaint, originating beyond the limits of the Colony of Hong-Kong, for or against any such officers.

Title.

[January 8, 1850.]

WHEREAS doubts have arisen as to whether the jurisdiction given to or conferred on the said Consular officers by the first section of the said Ordinance No. 3 of 1847, be concurrent with or exclusive of the summary jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Hong-Kong given or conferred by the said Colonial Ordinance No. 9 of 1845, and by the said Colonial Ordinance No. 3 of 1849: And whereas it is expedient to make provision for cases in which the said Consular Officers may become parties either complainant or defendant in certain civil cases:

Preamble.

I. Be it enacted and ordained by his Excellency the Governor of Hong-Kong and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of Her Majesty's subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong, for the removal of such doubts, that the summary jurisdiction with which the said Supreme Court of Hong-Kong is invested in certain cases under and by virtue of the said Ordinances No. 9 of 1845 and No. 3 of 1849, and the powers and authorities thereby given, shall not extend or be exercised or exercisable by the said Supreme Court beyond the limits of the Colony of Hong-Kong and its dependencies, nor to nor over any cause of action or complaint whatsoever, originating beyond the said limits, save and except and unless the parties complainant and defendant shall, at the date of the service of the summons in any action or suit, be all or both of them actually resident within the Colony of Hong-Kong or its dependencies: Provided always that nothing herein contained shall prevent, or be construed to prevent, all orders and decrees made by the Supreme Court under the aforesaid Ordinances No. 9 of 1845 and No. 3 of 1849, as hereby explained, from being carried into execution in manner in the said last-mentioned Ordinances provided, in any place within the jurisdiction of the said Supreme Court where the defendant, his goods, chattels, or effects, lands, tenements or hereditaments, may be found or met with: Provided also

The summary jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to be exercised only within the Colony of Hong-Kong and its dependencies.

that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to interfere with, limit, or restrict the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Hong-Kong, other than the summary jurisdiction with which that Court is invested by the aforesaid Ordinances No. 9 of 1845 and No. 3 of 1849, and other than as regards such jurisdiction over Consuls and Consular Officers, as is hereafter provided for.

Provision for the trial of all suits and actions, wherein Her Majesty's Consuls or other Consular Officers may be parties, plaintiff or defendant, the cause of action having originated beyond the limits of the colony.

II. And be it further enacted and ordained, That whenever any cause of civil action or complaint whatsoever shall originate beyond the limits of the Colony of Hong-Kong and its dependencies, for or against any such Consul in China, or any Vice-Consul while acting as Consul aforesaid, or any Consular Agent acting as such, then and in every such case it shall and may be lawful to and for the party complainant or defendant, or any or either of them, to prefer a petition in the matter to Her Majesty's Chief Superintendent of Trade in China, being also Governor of the Colony of Hong-Kong, who shall thereupon appoint some person or persons to try and adjudicate on the matter of the said petition, and the person or persons so appointed shall try and adjudicate on the matter, whatever may be the amount in dispute therein in a summary manner, entertaining in support of or against any such petition *vivâ voce* evidence on oath or sworn depositions, including or not, at his or their discretion, the evidence or depositions of the plaintiff or plaintiffs, defendant or defendants, or any or either of them, in the same manner as if such person or persons were acting as Consul under the provision of the said Consular Ordinance No. 3 of 1847: Provided always, that if the said Chief Superintendent shall deem the matter in question more fitting to be tried in the Supreme Court of Hong-Kong, it shall and may be lawful for the said Chief Superintendent to remit the party complainant or defendant and all the proceedings in the matter to the said Supreme Court; in which case the said Court shall have power and jurisdiction to entertain and adjudicate upon the matters and proceedings so remitted, in a summary manner, provided the debt or damages or cause of action or complaint shall not exceed the sum of five hundred dollars, and shall and may have and exercise over all and every such matters and proceedings all and every the jurisdiction, powers, and authorities given to and vested in the said Supreme Court under and by virtue of the said Ordinances No. 9 of 1845 and No. 3 of 1849, anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

(Signed) S. G. BONHAM.

Passed the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong,
this 8th day of January, 1850.

L. D'ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.

No. 2.

Ordinance to regulate the Jurisdiction of Magistrates, &c.

An Ordinance for Her Majesty's Subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the Coast of China.

Anno Decimo Tertio Victoriae Reginae.—No. 2 of 1850.

BY his Excellency Samuel George Bonham, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Colony of Hong-Kong and its dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong.

Title.

An Ordinance to regulate the jurisdiction of Magistrates and Courts of Sessions in Hong-Kong, over offences committed without the colony by British subjects; and for the better carrying into effect the Treaties between Great Britain and China.

[March 20, 1850.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS by Ordinance No. 1 of 1844, intituled "An Ordinance to render Her Majesty's subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles

from the Coast of China, subject in all matters to the Law of England, and to extend the jurisdiction of the Courts of Justice at Hong-Kong over the same," it is provided that the Courts of Justice at Hong-Kong shall have the same power, jurisdiction, and authority in all matters whatsoever, whether civil or criminal, over Her Majesty's subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, that the said Courts have or shall have over Her Majesty's subjects actually resident at Hong-Kong: And whereas it is by the said Ordinance further enacted and ordained, that in case of any trespass, wrong, or crime whatsoever charged to have been done by any of Her Majesty's subjects upon the person or property of any person or persons whatsoever within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, it shall not be lawful for the person or persons charged therewith to object to the locality of the jurisdiction of the said Courts at Hong-Kong, but he or they shall be indicted, tried, convicted, and punished, or acquitted or demeaned, in all respects as if the offence wherewith he or they may be charged had been committed within the Colony of Hong-Kong upon the body or property of any person or persons within the peace of our Lady the Queen.

I. Be it therefore enacted and ordained by his Excellency the Governor of Hong-Kong and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of Her Majesty's subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong, That the said Ordinance in part above recited shall be held to apply to, and is hereby extended to, all courts presided over by any magistrate or magistrates, and to all courts of session now established or hereafter to be established within the Colony of Hong-Kong: Provided always that it shall not be lawful for the said courts to have cognizance of any case, civil or criminal, of which they respectively would not have cognizance were the case to arise and be committed within the limits of the said colony.

Consular Ordinance No. 1 of 1844 to be held to apply to Magistrates' Courts.

II. And be it further enacted and ordained, That whenever any British subject shall be charged with having committed any crime or misdemeanour within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, it shall and may be lawful for any magistrate within the colony to do all and every act or acts respecting the apprehension of the accused, or respecting the summoning of witnesses or otherwise, that may be necessary for the investigation, commitment, and trial of the offender, as if such crime or misdemeanour had been committed within the limits of the said colony.

Crimes and Misdemeanours committed by British subjects without the colony, to be dealt with by Magistrates in like manner as if committed within the colony.

III. And be it further enacted and ordained, That for the purpose of proceeding in any such case, or in the investigation of any such crime or misdemeanour, in which the defendant or the witnesses shall be at the time without the said colony, it shall be lawful for such Court or magistrate as aforesaid to issue all necessary summonses, or warrants of arrest or of distress for the appearance of the defendant or witnesses, or for execution on any goods or chattels then being within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, in like manner as if such defendant or witnesses or goods or chattels were at the time within the said colony, and that the said defendant and witnesses shall be liable to proceedings and penalties for disobedience to or obstruction of the said summonses, or warrants, in the same manner as if such disobedience or obstruction had occurred within the said colony.

Magistrates' Warrants or Summonses may be executed or served on British subjects in China or within 100 miles of the coast.

IV. And be it further enacted and ordained, That, should such Court or magistrate as aforesaid be of opinion that any such case, or crime or misdemeanour would be more conveniently or properly tried or investigated by the Supreme Court or a Consular Court having jurisdiction thereover, it shall be lawful for such Court or magistrate to refuse to proceed therein, and to refer the complainant to such Supreme or Consular Court: Provided always that notwithstanding such refusal it shall be lawful for the Governor of Hong-Kong, being the Chief Superintendent of Trade, to direct such Court or magistrate to

Magistrates may refuse to proceed in cases more conveniently or properly cognizable by the Supreme or Consular Court, unless Chief Superintendent of Trade order to the contrary.

proceed therein, and such Court or magistrate shall thereupon proceed therein accordingly as if such refusal had not been made.

Magistrates of Hong-Kong on requisition of the Governor may enforce the observance of the Treaties by British subjects, by detaining the offender and reporting.

V. And be it further enacted and ordained, That on the requisition of the Governor of Hong-Kong, being the Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British subjects in China, any magistrate of Hong-Kong shall have and exercise the same power of carrying into effect both within and without the colony a certain Consular Ordinance, numbered 5 of 1844, and intituled "An Ordinance to carry into effect the Treaties between Great Britain and China, and to indemnify Her Majesty's Consuls and all other persons in China who may hitherto have assisted therein," as is now or shall hereafter be possessed by the said Consuls within their respective districts: Provided that no such magistrate shall have power to punish any breach of the said Treaties, but he shall record the testimony of the witnesses and the statements of the accused person, and remand such accused person to prison or admit such person to bail, and shall transmit to the said Governor, being the Chief Superintendent of Trade as aforesaid, the minutes of the investigation, and all documents in his possession connected with the charge against the accused; and it shall then be lawful for the said Governor to discharge or punish the accused, and to take such order in the case as it would have been lawful for him to take had the investigation been held before himself personally.

Power to Police Officers to arrest for offences committed within the dominions of the Emperor of China or 100 miles of the coast.

VI. And be it further enacted and ordained, That for the purposes of arresting and conveying before a magistrate any person being a British subject charged with having committed any offence within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, it shall and may be lawful for any officer of police or constable to arrest such person in the same manner in every respect as if such person had committed an offence within the aforesaid Colony of Hong-Kong.

Protection to Magistrate, Jailer, or Officer of Police, acting under authority of Chief Superintendent of Trade, or Governor of Hong-Kong.

VII. And be it further enacted and ordained, That if any action be brought against any magistrate, jailer, officer of police, or any other person, for anything done in obedience to any warrant or order issued by the Chief Superintendent of Trade or Governor of Hong-Kong, the proof of such warrant or order shall be a sufficient answer to such action, and the defendant or defendants on such proof as aforesaid shall be entitled to a verdict or judgment in his or their favour, and shall also be entitled to his or their costs as between attorney and client.

Interpretation clause.

VIII. And be it further enacted and ordained, That in the construction of this Ordinance, the term Magistrate shall be held to apply to each and all Magistrates of Police and Justices of the Peace for the Colony of Hong-Kong.

(Signed) S. G. BONHAM.

Passed the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong,
this 20th day of March, 1850.

L. D'ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.

No. 3.

Ordinance for investing Her Majesty's Consuls with powers of Justices of the Peace.

An Ordinance for Her Majesty's Subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the Coast of China.

Anno Decimo Quinto Victoriae Reginae.—No. 1 of 1852.

BY his Excellency Sir Samuel George Bonham, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Colony of Hong-Kong and its dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong.

An Ordinance for investing Her Majesty's Consuls in China with the Powers of Justices of the Peace, so far as may be requisite for enforcing the due observance of certain provisions of two Acts passed in the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, namely, "The General Merchant Seamen's Act," and "The Mercantile Marine Act, 1850."

Title.

[January 13, 1852.]

WHEREAS it is deemed expedient that Her Majesty's Consular Officers within the dominions of the Emperor of China should have power to enforce the due observance of the provisions aforesaid:

Preamble.

I. Be it therefore enacted and ordained by his Excellency the Governor of Hong-Kong and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of Her Majesty's subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong, That every British Consul, Vice-Consul, and Consular Agent, and all persons duly appointed to act temporarily in any such capacity, shall be and are hereby authorized to exercise within their respective Consular jurisdiction any of the powers which are by either of the said Imperial Acts committed to the justices of the peace in and for any of Her Majesty's colonies; and it is hereby declared that in any case where two or more such justices are required to act jointly, one of the said Consular Officers as aforesaid shall be and is hereby authorized to act alone.

Consular Officers within their respective jurisdictions empowered to carry out such provisions of the "Merchant Seamen's Act, and Mercantile Marine Act 1850," as are by the said Acts entrusted to Colonial Justices.

II. And be it further enacted and ordained, That no such Consular Officer as aforesaid shall be subject to any suit or proceeding whatever, for any act or acts heretofore done by him in his official capacity with the intent of carrying out or enforcing any provision or provisions of either of the aforesaid Acts.

Indemnity clause.

(Signed) S. G. BONHAM.

Passed the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong,
this 13th day of January, 1852.

L. D'ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.

No. 4.

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 5 of 1844.

An Ordinance for Her Majesty's Subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the Coast of China.

Anno Decimo Quinto Victoriæ Reginæ.—No. 2 of 1852.

BY his Excellency Sir Samuel George Bonham, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Colony of Hong-Kong and its dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong.

An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 5 of 1844, intituled "An Ordinance to carry into effect the Treaties between Great Britain and China, and to indemnify Her Majesty's Consuls and all other persons in China who may have hitherto assisted therein,"—and to limit the operation of Ordinance No. 7 of 1844, intituled "An Ordinance for the better Administration of Justice in the Consular Courts, and to establish a Registration of British Subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China."

Title.

[January 27, 1852.]

WHEREAS it has been decided by the Supreme Court of Hong-Kong that it is necessary that Her Majesty's Consular Officers have assessors in pursuance of the third section of Ordinance No. 7 of 1844, when imposing any penalty exceeding 100 dollars, although the same should be so imposed for a breach of the Treaties between Great Britain and China under the Ordinance No. 5 of 1844, and it is expedient to declare more fully the object and meaning of the

Preamble.

said Ordinance No. 5 of 1844: And whereas it is further expedient that the decisions of the said Consular Officers shall not be removable by writ of certiorari into the Supreme Court of Hong-Kong as they are now liable to be removed contrary to the spirit and intent of the provisions of the said Treaties :

Ordinance No. 7 of 1844 not to control No. 5 of 1844.

I. Be it therefore enacted and ordained by his Excellency the Governor of Hong-Kong and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of Her Majesty's subjects in China, with the advice of the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong, That from and after the passing of this Ordinance nothing in the said Ordinance No. 7 of 1844 contained shall be held to abridge or in any wise limit the power of jurisdiction conferred on any such Consular Officers by the said Ordinance No. 5 of 1844.

Proceedings for breach of Treaty under Ordinance No. 5 of 1844 not subject to certiorari or appeal to Supreme Court.

II. And be it further enacted and ordained, That no proceedings pending or had or hereafter to be instituted or pending under the said Ordinance No. 5 of 1844 for breach of the said Treaties between Great Britain and China, shall be removable by certiorari into the Supreme Court of the Colony of Hong-Kong, —nor be made the subject of appeal before the said Court; anything contained in the said Ordinance, or otherwise, notwithstanding.

Power to Her Majesty's Chief Superintendent of Trade to mitigate or remit penalties under such convictions.

III. And be it further enacted and ordained, That if any person or persons be convicted of a breach of any such Treaty by any Consular Officer, he or they may require the Consular Officer presiding at the time to remit a certified copy of the evidence and proceedings had at such trial, as also such further statements therein as the convicted person or persons may be desirous to make, to Her Majesty's Chief Superintendent of Trade, to whom it shall be then lawful, by warrant under his hand and seal addressed to the Consular Officer by whom the case was tried, to mitigate or remit altogether the penalty or punishment awarded to the party or parties convicted, and such Consular Officer shall give immediate effect to the injunction of any such warrant.

This Ordinance not to affect the provisions contained in Section V of Ordinance No. 5 of 1844.

IV. And be it further enacted and ordained, That nothing herein contained shall be held to interfere with, vary, or alter the provisions contained in the fifth section of the said Ordinance No. 5 of 1844.

(Signed)

S. G. BONHAM.

Passed the Legislative Council of Hong-Kong,
this 27th day of January, 1852.

L. D'ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.

TREATY

RELATIVE TO

THE SUCCESSION

TO

THE CROWN OF DENMARK.

Signed at London, May 8, 1852.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1852.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

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Treaty between Her Majesty, the Emperor of Austria, the Prince President of the French Republic, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of all the Russias, and the King of Sweden and Norway, on the one part, and the King of Denmark on the other part, relative to the Succession to the Crown of Denmark.

Signed at London, May 8, 1852.

[*Ratifications exchanged at London, June 19, 1852.*]

Au nom de la Très Sainte et Indivisible Trinité.

SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Autriche, Roi de Hongrie et de Bohême, le Prince Président de la République Française, Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse, Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, et Sa Majesté le Roi de Suède et de Norvège, considérant que le maintien de l'intégrité de la Monarchie Danoise, lié aux intérêts généraux de l'équilibre Européen, est d'une haute importance pour la conservation de la paix, et qu'une combinaison qui appellerait à succéder à la totalité des Etats actuellement réunis sous le sceptre de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark, la descendance mâle, à l'exclusion des femmes, serait le meilleur moyen d'assurer l'intégrité de cette Monarchie, ont résolu, à l'invitation de Sa Majesté Danoise, de conclure un Traité, afin de donner aux arrangemens relatifs à cet ordre de succession, un gage additionnel de stabilité par un acte de reconnaissance Européenne.

En conséquence, les Hautes Parties Contractantes ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir :

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Très Honorable Jacques Howard, Comte de Malmesbury, Vicomte Fitzharris, Baron Malmesbury, Pair du Royaume Uni, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, et Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères ;

Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Autriche, Roi de Hongrie et de Bohême, le Sieur Louis Charles Baron de Kübeck, Chevalier de l'Ordre de Sainte Anne de Russie de la seconde classe, Commandeur de l'Ordre du Sauveur de Grèce, et de l'Ordre du Lion d'Or de la Maison Electorale de Hesse, Chargé d'Affaires de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique près la Cour de Sa Majesté Britannique ;

Le Prince Président de la République Française, le Sieur Alexandre Colonna Comte Walewski, Commandeur de l'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Saint Janvier des Deux Siciles, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre du Mérite de Saint Joseph de Toscane, Ambassadeur de la République Française près Sa Majesté Britannique ;

Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse, le Sieur Chrétien Charles Josie Bunsen, Commandeur de l'Ordre de l'Aigle Rouge, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de la Maison Ducale Ernestine de Saxe, &c., &c., Conseiller Intime Actuel de Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse, son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique ;

Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, le Sieur Philippe Baron de Brunnow, Chevalier des Ordres de Saint Alexandre Newski en diamans, de l'Aigle Blanc, de Sainte Anne de la première classe, de Saint Stanislas de la première classe, de Saint Wladimir de la troisième classe, ayant la Médaille pour la Campagne de Turquie, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Danebrog de Danemark, Commandeur de l'Ordre de Saint Etienne de Hongrie, Chevalier des Ordres

de Prusse de l'Aigle Rouge de la seconde classe, et de Saint Jean de Jérusalem, et de plusieurs autres Ordres étrangers, son Conseiller Privé, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique ;

Sa Majesté le Roi de Suède et de Norvège, le Sieur Jean Gothard, Baron de Rehausen, Commandeur de l'Ordre de St. Olaf, et Chevalier de l'Ordre de l'Etoile Polaire, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Danebrog de Danemark, son Chambellan, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique ;

Et Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark, le Sieur Christian de Bille, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Danebrog, décoré de la Croix d'Argent du même Ordre, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de l'Etoile Polaire de Suède, Commandeur de celui des Guelphes de Hanovre de la première classe, Commandeur de l'Ordre de la Conception de Portugal, Chevalier de celui du Sauveur de Grèce, son Chambellan, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près Sa Majesté Britannique ;

Lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs respectifs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des Articles suivans :

ARTICLE I.

Après avoir pris en sérieuse considération les intérêts de sa Monarchie, Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark, de l'assentiment de Son Altesse Royale le Prince Héritaire, et de ses plus proches Cognats, appelés à la succession par la Loi Royale de Danemark, ainsi que de concert avec Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, Chef de la Branche aînée de la Maison de Holstein-Gottorp, ayant déclaré vouloir régler l'ordre de succession dans ses Etats, de manière à ce qu'à défaut de descendance mâle en ligne directe du Roi Frédéric III de Danemark, sa Couronne soit transmise à Son Altesse le Prince Christian de Slesvig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, et aux descendans issus du mariage de ce Prince avec Son Altesse la Princesse Louise de Slesvig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, née Princesse de Hesse, par ordre de primogéniture, de mâle en mâle ; les Hautes Parties Contractantes, appréciant la sagesse des vues qui ont déterminé l'adoption éventuelle de cette combinaison, s'engagent d'un commun accord, dans le cas où l'éventualité prévue viendrait à se réaliser, à reconnaître à Son Altesse le Prince Christian de Slesvig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, et aux descendans mâles, issus en ligne directe de son mariage avec la dite Princesse, le droit de succéder à la totalité des Etats actuellement réunis sous le sceptre de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark.

ARTICLE II.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes, reconnaissant comme permanent le principe de l'intégrité de la Monarchie Danoise, s'engagent à prendre en considération les ouvertures ultérieures que Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark jugerait à propos de leur adresser, si, ce qu'à Dieu ne plaise, l'extinction de la descendance mâle, en ligne directe, de Son Altesse le Prince Christian de Slesvig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, issue de son mariage avec Son Altesse la Princesse Louise de Slesvig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, née Princesse de Hesse, devenait imminente.

ARTICLE III.

Il est expressément entendu que les droits et les obligations réciproques de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark et de la Confédération Germanique, concernant les Duchés de Holstein et de Lauenbourg, droits et obligations établis par l'Acte Fédéral de 1815, et par le droit Fédéral existant, ne seront pas altérés par le présent Traité.

ARTICLE IV.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes se réservent de porter le présent Traité à la connaissance des autres Puissances, en les invitant à y accéder.

ARTICLE V.

Le présent Traité sera ratifié, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Londres dans le délai de six semaines, ou plus tôt si faire se peut.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé, et y ont apposé le cachet de leurs armes.

Fait à Londres, le huit Mai, l'an de grâce mil huit cent cinquante-deux.

(L.S.)	MALMESBURY.	(L.S.)	BILLE.
(L.S.)	KUBECK.		
(L.S.)	A. WALEWSKI.		
(L.S.)	BUNSEN.		
(L.S.)	BRUNNOW.		
(L.S.)	REHAUSEN.		

(Translation.)

In the name of the Most Holy and Indivisible Trinity.

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, the Prince President of the French Republic, His Majesty the King of Prussia, His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway, taking into consideration that the maintenance of the integrity of the Danish Monarchy, as connected with the general interests of the balance of power in Europe, is of high importance to the preservation of peace, and that an arrangement by which the succession to the whole of the dominions now united under the sceptre of His Majesty the King of Denmark, should devolve upon the male line, to the exclusion of females, would be the best means of securing the integrity of that Monarchy, have resolved, at the invitation of His Danish Majesty, to conclude a Treaty, in order to give to the arrangements relating to such order of succession, an additional pledge of stability by an act of European acknowledgment.

In consequence, the High Contracting Parties have named as their Plenipotentiaries; that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable James Howard, Earl of Malmesbury, Viscount Fitzharris, Baron Malmesbury, a Peer of the United Kingdom, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, the Sieur Lewis Charles Baron de Kübeck, Knight of the Order of St. Anne of Russia of the second class, Commander of the Order of the Redeemer of Greece, and of the Order of the Golden Lion of the Electoral House of Hesse, Chargé d'Affaires of His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty at the Court of Her Britannic Majesty;

The Prince President of the French Republic, the Sieur Alexander Colonna Count Walewski, Commander of the National Order of the Legion of Honour, Grand Cross of the Order of St. Januarius of the Two Sicilies, Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of St. Joseph of Tuscany, Ambassador of the French Republic to Her Britannic Majesty;

His Majesty the King of Prussia, the Sieur Christian Charles Josiah Bunsen, Commander of the Order of the Red Eagle, Grand Cross of the Order of the Ducal Ernestine House of Saxony, &c., &c., Privy Councillor of His Majesty the King of Prussia, his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty ;

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, the Sieur Philip Baron de Brunnow, Knight of the Orders of St. Alexander Newski in diamonds, of the White Eagle, of St. Anne of the first class, of St. Stanislaus of the first class, of St. Wladimir of the third class, having the Medal for the Campaign of Turkey, Grand Cross of the Order of Danebrog of Denmark, Commander of the Order of St. Stephen of Hungary, Knight of the Orders of Prussia of the Red Eagle of the second class, and of St. John of Jerusalem, and of several other foreign Orders, his Privy Councillor, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty ;

His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway, the Sieur John Gothard Baron de Rehausen, Commander of the Order of St. Olaf, and Knight of the Order of the Polar Star, Grand Cross of the Order of Danebrog of Denmark, his Chamberlain, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty ;

And His Majesty the King of Denmark, the Sieur Christian de Bille, Grand Cross of the Order of Danebrog, decorated with the Silver Cross of the same Order, Grand Cross of the Order of the Polar Star of Sweden, Commander of that of the Guelphs of Hanover of the first class, Commander of the Order of the Conception of Portugal, Knight of that of the Redeemer of Greece, his Chamberlain, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty ;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles :

ARTICLE I.

After having taken into serious consideration the interests of his Monarchy, His Majesty the King of Denmark, with the assent of His Royal Highness the Hereditary Prince, and of his nearest Cognates, entitled to the succession by the Royal Law of Denmark, as well as in concert with His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, Head of the elder Branch of the House of Holstein-Gottorp, having declared his wish to regulate the order of succession in his dominions, in such manner that, in default of issue male in a direct line from King Frederick III of Denmark, his Crown should devolve upon His Highness the Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, and upon the issue of the marriage of that Prince with Her Highness the Princess Louisa of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, born a Princess of Hesse, by order of primogeniture, from male to male ; the High Contracting Parties, appreciating the wisdom of the views which have determined the eventual adoption of that arrangement, engage by common consent, in case the contemplated contingency should be realized, to acknowledge in His Highness the Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, and his issue male in the direct line by his marriage with the said Princess, the right of succeeding to the whole of the dominions now united under the sceptre of His Majesty the King of Denmark.

ARTICLE II.

The High Contracting Parties, acknowledging as permanent the principle of the integrity of the Danish Monarchy, engage to take into consideration the further propositions which His Majesty the King of Denmark may deem it expedient to address to them, in case (which God forbid) the extinction of the issue male, in the direct line, of His Highness the Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, by his marriage with Her Highness the Princess Louisa of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderbourg-Glücksbourg, born a Princess of Hesse, should become imminent.

ARTICLE III.

It is expressly understood that the reciprocal rights and obligations of His Majesty the King of Denmark, and of the Germanic Confederation, concerning the Duchies of Holstein and Lauenburg, rights and obligations established by the Federal Act of 1815, and by the existing Federal right, shall not be affected by the present Treaty.

ARTICLE IV.

The High Contracting Parties reserve to themselves to bring the present Treaty to the knowledge of the other Powers, and to invite them to accede to it.

ARTICLE V.

The present Treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London at the expiration of six weeks, or sooner if possible.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at London, the eighth day of May, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

(L.S.) MALMESBURY.
 (L.S.) KUBECK.
 (L.S.) A. WALEWSKI.
 (L.S.) BUNSEN.
 (L.S.) BRUNNOW.
 (L.S.) REHAUSEN.

(L.S.) BILLE.

DANISH SUCCESSION.

Treaty relative to the Succession to the
Crown of Denmark.

Signed at London, May 8, 1852.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. June 1852.*

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

THE FOREIGN REFUGEES

IN

LONDON.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
March 29, 1852.*

West

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

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No. 1.

Prince Schwarzenberg to Count Buol.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Count Buol.)

Vienne, 4 Février, 1852.

LORD GRANVILLE a eu l'obligeance de communiquer à votre Excellence la dépêche qu'il a adressée au Comte de Westmorland, à la date du 13 Janvier dernier, en réponse aux réclamations que vous aviez été chargé, M. le Comte, d'élever auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, contre la tolérance accordée en Angleterre aux menées révolutionnaires des réfugiés politiques qui ont trouvé asile dans ce pays.

La première partie de cette dépêche roule sur le haut prix que le peuple Anglais attache au droit d'asile, ainsi que sur les motifs qui empêchent le Gouvernement Britannique de songer à restreindre ce droit en présentant au Parlement un Alien Bill.

Nous ne nous sentons point appelés à faire de la controverse sur les argumens employés dans cette partie de la dépêche de Lord Granville, puisque nous n'avons jamais contesté à l'Angleterre l'exercice du droit d'asile en lui-même, pas plus que nous avons prétendu dicter au Gouvernement Britannique, qui est en lui-même le juge le plus compétent, la nature des moyens dont il aurait à user pour obvier aux flagrants abus de ce droit.

Tout ce que nous avons demandé au Gouvernement Britannique, et ce que nous ne discontinuerons pas à lui demander, c'est de faire en sorte qu'il ne soit pas permis aux réfugiés politiques auxquels il accorde l'asile, de poursuivre, à l'ombre de l'hospitalité dont ils jouissent, des machinations ouvertement hostiles aux Etats du Continent, et particulièrement à l'Autriche.

Lord Granville a bien voulu à ce sujet nous offrir l'assurance que le Gouvernement Britannique non seulement regretterait, mais condamnerait hautement toute tentative de la part des réfugiés ayant pour but d'exciter l'insurrection dans leurs pays d'origine; qu'il continuerait à surveiller la conduite des réfugiés suspects, et qu'il chercherait par tous les moyens légaux à les empêcher d'abuser, au détriment de Gouvernemens amis et alliés de la Grande Bretagne, de l'hospitalité que les lois Anglaises leur accordent si généreusement.

L'Empereur, en prenant acte de ces assurances, aime à y puiser l'espoir que le Gouvernement Britannique saura désormais plus amplement et plus rigoureusement que tel n'a été le cas jusqu'ici, faire usage des moyens légaux dont il dispose, et qu'il juge, à ce qu'il paraît, suffisans pour le mettre à même de remplir par rapport aux menées des réfugiés, ses devoirs internationaux.

En attendant toutefois que ces dispositions du Gouvernement Britannique soient suivies d'effet, la liberté d'action presque illimitée dont les réfugiés ont joui jusqu'ici en Angleterre par rapport aux trames révolutionnaires qu'un grand nombre d'entre eux ne cesse d'ourdir contre le repos des Etats du Continent, nous impose le devoir de prendre de notre côté quelques mesures de précaution tendant à nous prémunir contre les inconvéniens et les dangers dont cette liberté est la source. Les autorités Impériales recevront dès lors l'ordre de redoubler de vigilance à l'égard des voyageurs provenant d'Angleterre, et d'exécuter strictement par rapport à leurs passeports, les réglemens en vigueur auxquels on avait jadis, sous l'empire d'autres circonstances, pris l'habitude de faire de fréquentes exceptions en faveur des sujets Britanniques. Le Gouvernement Impérial se réserve d'ailleurs la faculté d'aviser à des mesures ultérieures si malheureusement le besoin s'en faisait encore sentir.

Votre Excellence est chargée de donner à Lord Granville lecture et copie de cette dépêche.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) SCHWARZENBERG.

(Translation.)

Vienna, February 4, 1852.

LORD GRANVILLE has been good enough to communicate to your Excellency the despatch which he addressed to the Earl of Westmorland on the 13th of January last, in answer to the representations which you, M. le Comte, had been directed to make to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, against the toleration accorded in England to the revolutionary intrigues of the political refugees who have found an asylum in that country.

The first portion of that despatch treats of the high value which the English people attach to the right of asylum, as well as of the reasons which prevent the British Government from contemplating any restriction of that right, by proposing an Alien Bill to Parliament.

We do not feel ourselves called upon to enter into any discussion as to the arguments used in this portion of Lord Granville's despatch, inasmuch as we have never contested the exercise of the right of asylum by England, any more than we have taken upon ourselves to dictate to the British Government, who is itself the best judge, the nature of the measures which it might adopt in order to obviate the flagrant abuse of this right.

All that we have required of the British Government, and what we shall continue to require, is, that it shall act in such wise as not to allow the political refugees to whom it grants an asylum, to pursue, under the protection of the hospitality they enjoy, intrigues avowedly hostile to the States of the Continent, and more especially to Austria.

Lord Granville has been good enough to give us on this subject the assurance that the British Government would not only regret but highly condemn every attempt on the part of the refugees, having for its object to excite insurrection in their native country; that he would continue to watch over the conduct of suspected refugees; and that he would endeavour by all legal means to prevent them from abusing, to the detriment of the Governments, the friends and allies of Great Britain, the hospitality which the English laws so generously affords them.

The Emperor, in recording these assurances, is desirous of deducing from them the hope that the British Government will henceforth make a more ample and more rigorous use than has hitherto been the case, of the legal means at its disposal, and which it may consider sufficient to enable it to fulfil, as regards the intrigues of the refugees, its international duties.

While we, however, await the carrying into effect of these intentions on the part of the British Government, we are compelled, by the almost unlimited freedom of action which the refugees have hitherto enjoyed in England as regards the revolutionary intrigues which a great number of them do not cease to carry on against the repose of the States of the Continent, to take on our side certain measures of precaution which shall protect us against the inconveniences and dangers of which that freedom is the source. The Imperial authorities will accordingly receive directions to redouble their vigilance as regards travellers coming from England, and to execute strictly, with respect to their passports, the existing regulations, as regards which a habit of making frequent exceptions in favour of British subjects had, under the influence of other circumstances, arisen. The Imperial Government, however, reserves to itself the power of considering further measures if the necessity should unfortunately make itself felt.

Your Excellency is directed to allow Lord Granville to read this despatch and to give him a copy.

Receive, &c.

(Signed) SCHWARZENBERG.

No. 2.

Count Nesselrode to Baron Brunnow.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Baron Brunnow, February 23.)

(Extrait.)

St. Pétersbourg, ^{26 Janvier}_{7 Février}, 1852.

SIR HAMILTON SEYMOUR nous a remis une copie de la dépêche de Lord Granville qui répond à nos représentations contre l'abus que les réfugiés politiques font du droit d'asile en Angleterre.

Cette pièce étant connue de votre Excellence, je puis d'autant plus me dispenser d'en analyser le contenu que vous avez déjà consigné dans la notice confidentielle que vous avez remise au Principal Secrétaire d'Etat, les observations que nous aurions eu à faire sur la teneur de la dite dépêche.

Nous aimons à espérer que les Ministres Anglais dans leur sagesse et dans leur équité, rechercheront le moyen de remédier à un état de choses qui ne saurait se concilier avec les principes du droit public.

Pour le moment, sans pousser plus loin la controverse, nous prenons acte de la promesse que nous donne le Cabinet Britannique de surveiller les machinations des réfugiés politiques, et d'employer tous les moyens légaux afin de les empêcher d'abuser de l'hospitalité dont ils jouissent en Angleterre, pour porter atteinte aux pays et aux Gouvernemens amis et alliés de la Grande Bretagne. L'Empereur attendra avec confiance la réalisation de cette promesse.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

St. Petersburg, ^{January 26}_{February 7}, 1852.

SIR HAMILTON SEYMOUR has given us a copy of Lord Granville's despatch in reply to our representations against the abuse by the political refugees, of the right of asylum in England.

As your Excellency is acquainted with this document, I may dispense with analyzing its contents, the more so as you have already recorded in the confidential memorandum which you have given to the Principal Secretary of State, the observations which we might have had to make upon the tenor of that despatch.

We are willing to hope that the English Ministers, in their wisdom and equity, will devise a remedy for a state of things which is irreconcilable with the principles of public law.

For the present, without pursuing the controversy any further, we take note of the promise given to us by the British Cabinet to watch the machinations of the political refugees, and to employ all legal means in order to prevent them from abusing the hospitality which they enjoy in England, for the purpose of assailing countries and Governments the friends and allies of Great Britain. The Emperor will await with confidence the realization of this promise.

No. 3.

Paper referred to in Count Nesselrode's despatch of ^{January 26}_{February 7}, 1852.

ENTRE les représentations faites par les Puissances amies sur l'abus du droit d'asile et la réponse du 13 Janvier, il y a une divergence notable qu'il est bon de signaler.

Les premières se fondaient sur les principes généraux du Droit International.

La seconde se renferme simplement dans les limites de la législation municipale en Angleterre.

Ces deux points de vue sont tout-à-fait distincts.
Je vais en donner la preuve.

Selon la loi municipale de l'Angleterre, comme la dépêche du 13 Janvier le dit, il est prohibé aux étrangers (sous peine d'amende ou d'emprisonnement) de lever la guerre contre un Gouvernement avec lequel la Grande Bretagne est en relation d'amitié.

Mais selon la Loi Internationale il y a un grand nombre d'autres offenses qui sont interdites par le Droit des Gens, bien qu'elles ne consistent pas dans le seul acte de *lever la guerre*.

Je vais citer des faits qui rentrent dans la catégorie des offenses *proscrites* par le Droit des Gens.

1. Des réfugiés Italiens à Londres ont émis et répandu l'année dernière des coupons d'un emprunt dont le produit était destiné à acheter des armes et des munitions, dans le but avoué de fomenter la guerre civile en Italie. Des circulaires constatant ce but ont été imprimées et insérées dans les journaux à Londres.

2. Dans la capitale de la Grande Bretagne il existe des lieux de réunion connus, où des réfugiés Allemands, Italiens, Français, se donnent rendezvous pour concerter les moyens de propager la révolte dans les pays amis de l'Angleterre; pour y envoyer des émissaires dans ce but; pour conspirer contre la vie des Souverains.

3. Lors des derniers évènements à Paris, un certain nombre de réfugiés Français a émis à Londres une proclamation, insérée dans les journaux Anglais, pour appeler le peuple Français aux armes.

4. A plusieurs reprises les réfugiés en Angleterre ont tenté de répandre parmi l'armée des Puissances amies de la Grande Bretagne, des proclamations et des écrits séditeux, dans le but d'ébranler la fidélité des troupes.

5. Kossuth, pendant son dernier séjour en Angleterre, a ouvertement prôné la révolte contre l'Autriche; prodigué l'injure aux Souverains amis et alliés de la Grande Bretagne, et cherché par les paroles les plus odieuses à soulever la haine du peuple Anglais contre ces Monarques amis.

Si les faits que je viens de citer ne sont pas interdits par la loi municipale Anglaise; s'ils ne constituent pas le délit prévu par la dépêche du 13 Janvier; s'ils ne sont pas punissables d'amende ou d'emprisonnement; peut-on affirmer qu'ils soient d'accord avec le respect, avec les égards, qui, selon le Droit des Gens, sont dûs de nation à nation, entre Gouvernemens amis?

Vattel a consacré à cette matière un chapitre qui a pour titre, "De l'observation de la justice entre les nations." Liv. 11, ch. v. du *Droit des Gens*.

On y trouvera cette maxime, "Toutes les nations sont donc étroitement obligées à cultiver la justice entr'elles, à l'observer scrupuleusement; à s'abstenir avec soin de tout ce qui peut y donner atteinte. Chacune doit rendre aux autres ce qui leur appartient, respecter leurs droits, leur en laisser la paisible jouissance." § 64.

Le plus grand bien qui appartienne à un Etat, c'est son repos, c'est sa paix domestique.

Quiconque le trouble dans ce bien, lui fait une mortelle injure.

De ce principe il résulte nécessairement que si les réfugiés, sous l'abri qu'ils trouvent en Angleterre, se sentent libres de conspirer contre la tranquillité intérieure des autres Etats, sans que la loi municipale de l'Angleterre les en empêche, celle-ci leur assure une impunité qui par là même devient un encouragement.

Or, c'est précisément contre cet état de choses, contraire au Droit Universel des Gens, que se sont élevées les représentations des Puissances amies.

A cet appel aux sentimens d'amitié et de justice internationale du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, la dépêche du 13 Janvier répond dans les termes ci-après.

Elle constate que "Si les réfugiés excitaient l'insurrection contre la mère patrie, une pareille conduite, hautement condamnée par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, serait considérée comme une violation flagrante de l'hospitalité dont ils jouissent."

Elle ajoute, que "le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté continuera à diriger son attention sur les procédés des réfugiés soupçonnés, et qu'il emploiera tous les moyens légaux pour les empêcher d'abuser de l'hospitalité qui leur est accordée par la législation Anglaise, pour porter atteinte aux pays et aux Gouvernemens amis et alliés de la Grande Bretagne."

En prenant acte de cette assurance, serait-il permis d'y ajouter une observation suggérée par une lecture attentive de la dépêche du 13 Janvier? Voici cette observation :

Quels sont les moyens légaux dont le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté fera usage pour empêcher les réfugiés de porter atteinte aux pays amis, si la loi municipale de l'Angleterre se réduit à interdire aux réfugiés de lever la guerre?

Ce n'est point contre ce danger de guerre que les Puissances amies ont eu à réclamer. Ce dont elles ont porté plainte, c'est de l'injure qui leur est faite par la license effrénée avec laquelle les réfugiés conspirent contre leur repos, tantôt par les proclamations séditeuses qu'ils émettent, tantôt par les émissaires qu'ils envoient, tantôt par l'argent qu'ils quêtent, tantôt par les manifestations offensantes qu'ils dirigent publiquement contre la dignité des Souverains et des Gouvernemens amis et alliés de la Grande Bretagne.

Vattel établit à ce sujet un précepte qui mérite d'être cité :

"Ce principe général interdit aux nations toutes mauvaises pratiques tendantes à porter le trouble dans un autre Etat, à y entretenir la discorde, à corrompre les citoyens, à lui débaucher ses alliés, à lui susciter des ennemis, à ternir sa gloire, à le priver de ses avantages naturels."

Si la législation Anglaise accorde aux réfugiés une hospitalité tellement étendue qu'elle place l'étranger sur le même pied que le sujet Britannique, il s'en suit naturellement qu'à l'égal du sujet Anglais, le réfugié doit s'abstenir de ces mêmes mauvaises pratiques que condamne généralement le Droit des Gens.

Le réfugié, parce qu'il est étranger, aurait-il le droit de se livrer impunément à ces mauvaises pratiques que le Droit des Gens interdirait à tout sujet Anglais? Cette théorie là serait absolument inadmissible en matière de droit public.

Or, la réciprocité qui sert de base à toutes les relations internationales veut que les peuples amis ne conspirent pas les uns contre les autres; qu'ils ne portent pas atteinte mutuellement à leur repos, à leur dignité, à leur honneur.

Pour citer encore l'expression de Vattel, "il ne faut pas qu'ils ternissent leur gloire."

Celle de la Grande Bretagne est respectée partout ailleurs chez les nations amies. Qu'elle fasse de même usage de son pouvoir; de son autorité; de sa justice envers les Gouvernemens avec lesquels elle désire entretenir des relations de paix et de bonne intelligence.

En résumé: le Gouvernement Britannique par sa dépêche du 13 Janvier déclare hautement condamnable l'excitation à la révolte.

Il considère tout acte pareil de la part des réfugiés étrangers comme une flagrante violation de l'hospitalité dont ils jouissent; enfin, il se montre prêt à user de tous les moyens dont ils dispose légalement pour empêcher cette violation faite au préjudice des Gouvernemens amis et alliés.

Si cette assurance va au-delà des limites étroites posées par la Loi Municipale, elle rentre dans le domaine du Droit des Gens. En ce sens elle serait satisfaisante; autrement elle ne répondrait point à l'appel fait de bonne foi aux sentimens de loyauté et d'amitié du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Londres, le 19 Janvier, 1852.

(Translation.)

THERE is a remarkable difference which it is well to notice between the representations made by the friendly Powers upon the abuse of the right of asylum, and the reply of the 13th of January.

The first rested on the general principles of International Law.

The second is simply confined to the municipal legislation in England.

These two points of view are altogether distinct.

I proceed to prove this.

According to the municipal law of England, as is stated in the despatch of the 13th of January, foreigners are prohibited (under pain of fine or imprisonment) from levying war against a Government with which Great Britain is in relations of amity.

But according to International Law, there are a great number of other offences which are prohibited by the Law of Nations, although they do not amount to the single act of levying war.

I proceed to cite certain acts coming within the category of offences proscribed by the Law of Nations :

1. Italian refugees issued and circulated last year the coupons of a loan, the produce of which was destined to purchase arms and munitions of war, with the avowed purpose of fomenting civil war in Italy. Circulars proving that purpose were printed and inserted in the London newspapers.

2. In the capital of Great Britain there are known places of meeting, where German, Italian, and French refugees assemble, in order to concert measures for propagating revolt in countries friendly to England; to send emissaries to those countries for that purpose; to conspire against the life of Sovereigns.

3. On the occasion of the late events at Paris, a certain number of French refugees published in London a proclamation, which was circulated in the English papers, calling the French people to arms.

4. At various times the refugees in England have attempted to spread among the armies of Powers in amity with Great Britain, proclamations and seditious writings, with the view of shaking the fidelity of the troops.

5. Kossuth, during his late residence in England, openly preached revolt against Austria, lavished insult upon the Sovereigns friends and allies of Great Britain, and sought, by the most odious language, to rouse the hatred of the English people against those friendly Monarchs.

If the acts which I have cited are not prohibited by the municipal law of England; if they do not constitute the offence contemplated in the despatch of the 13th of January; if they are not punishable by fine and imprisonment—can it be affirmed that they are in accordance with the respect and regard which, according to the Law of Nations, are due from nation to nation, between friendly Governments?

Vattel has devoted to this matter a chapter entitled, “Concerning the observance of Justice between Nations.” Liv. II, c. v, of the Law of Nations.

This maxim will be found in it: “All nations, therefore, are strictly bound to cultivate justice between themselves; to observe it scrupulously; to abstain carefully from everything which can prejudice it. Each should render to others what is due to them; should respect their rights; should leave them in peaceable enjoyment thereof.” § 64.

The greatest good which can belong to a State is its tranquillity, its domestic peace.

Whoever troubles it in regard to this good, does it a mortal injury.

It is a necessary consequence of this principle, that if the refugees, by reason of the support which they obtain in England, feel themselves at liberty to conspire against the internal tranquillity of other States, without being prevented from doing so by the municipal law of England, that law affords them impunity, which from that very circumstance becomes encouragement.

But it is precisely against this state of things, contrary to the universal Law of Nations, that the representations of the friendly Powers have been directed.

To this appeal to the sentiments of friendship and of international justice on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, the despatch of the 13th of January responds in the following terms :

It asserts that “if the refugees should excite insurrection against their native country, such conduct, highly condemned by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, would be considered as a flagrant breach of the hospitality which they enjoy.”

It adds that “Her Majesty's Government will continue to direct its attention to the proceedings of suspected refugees, and will employ all legal means to prevent them from abusing the hospitality accorded to them by British laws, to the prejudice of countries and Governments in amity and alliance with Great Britain.”

In recording this assurance, may it be allowed to add an observation suggested by an attentive perusal of the despatch of the 13th of January? This is the observation :

What are the legal measures which Her Majesty's Government will employ

to prevent the refugees from injuring friendly countries, if the Municipal Law of England is limited to forbidding the refugees from levying war?

It is not against this danger of war that the friendly Powers have had occasion to remonstrate. What they have complained of is the injury done to them by the unbridled licence with which the refugees conspire against their tranquillity: at one time by the seditious proclamations which they issue; at another by the emissaries whom they send; at another by the money which they collect; at another by the offensive manifestations which they publicly make against the dignity of Sovereigns and Governments in amity and alliance with Great Britain.

On this point Vattel lays down a maxim which deserves to be cited:

"This general principle prohibits all nations from having recourse to evil practices tending to produce disturbance in another State, to keep up dissension therein, to corrupt the citizens, to alienate its allies, to stir up enemies against it, to tarnish its glory, to deprive it of its natural advantages."

If the English law allows to the refugees an hospitality of so extended a nature as to place the foreigner on the same footing as the British subject, it is a necessary consequence that, like the English subject, the refugee must abstain from those same evil practices which are generally condemned by the Law of Nations.

Can the refugee, because he is a foreigner, be entitled to have recourse with impunity to those evil practices which the Law of Nations would forbid every British subject from having recourse to? Such a theory would be absolutely inadmissible in a matter of public law.

But the reciprocity which is the basis of all international relations, requires that people in amity should not conspire against each other; that they should not mutually prejudice their tranquillity, their dignity, their honour.

To quote again the expression of Vattel, "they must not tarnish their glory."

That of Great Britain is respected everywhere else among friendly relations. Let her in like manner display her power, her authority, her justice towards Governments with which she is desirous of maintaining relations of peace and good understanding.

To sum up: the British Government by its despatch of the 13th January, declares excitement to revolt to be highly condemnable.

It considers every such act on the part of the foreign refugees as a flagrant violation of the hospitality which they enjoy; finally, it is prepared to employ all the means legally at its disposal to prevent any such violation being committed to the prejudice of friendly and allied Governments.

If this assurance goes beyond the narrow limits prescribed by the Municipal Law, it comes within the domain of the Law of Nations. In that sense it would be satisfactory; otherwise it would not answer to the appeal made in good faith to the sentiments of loyalty and friendship entertained by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

London, January 19, 1852.

No. 4.

Earl Granville to Count Buol.

M. le Comte,

Foreign Office, February 23, 1852.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you addressed to me on the 21st instant, informing me that you had been directed by your Court to bring before Her Majesty's Government the remonstrances which the Holy See considered itself entitled to make as regards the abuse made by Roman refugees of the asylum accorded to them in England; and communicating to me for that purpose a copy of a note addressed by Cardinal Antonelli to the Austrian Minister at Rome, claiming this intervention on the part of the Austrian Government.

With reference to this communication I must remind you, M. le Comte,

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that on the 7th of January last you informed me by a note bearing that date, that the Government of His Royal Highness the Duke of Modena concurred in the representations which you had had occasion to address to Her Majesty's Government on the 9th of December last, on the subject of the foreign refugees resident in England. On receiving this note it became my duty to consider what course it would be fitting for me to pursue with respect to an official communication on the part of the Duke of Modena made by a foreign diplomatist who is not accredited to Her Majesty the Queen of England by His Royal Highness.

I was anxious to do that which was most courteous to you, as a Minister for whom I entertain great personal regard, and that which was most conciliatory towards the Government of Austria which you represent, and with which it is the desire of the British Government to maintain the most friendly relations; and I therefore contented myself with stating to you, at the next interview which I had the honour of holding with you, that for reasons which you would understand, I should not take any notice of your communication.

It will undoubtedly be in your knowledge, that representations similar to the one in which you on the 7th of January informed me that the Government of the Duke of Modena concurred, had been received by Her Majesty's Government not only from Austria, but likewise from France, Prussia, Russia, and from the Diet of the Germanic Confederation; and that these representations were answered by me in a despatch dated the 13th ultimo, addressed to Her Majesty's Representatives at Vienna, Paris, St. Petersburg, and Frankfort, to be communicated to the Governments to which they were respectively accredited. No such despatch was addressed to Her Majesty's Representative at Berlin, because, previous to the date on which it was forwarded to the others, I had been informed that the Prussian Government no longer wished to press the matter on the Government of Her Majesty.

The French Ambassador, in replying verbally to my despatch, expressed the hope of the Government of the Prince President that Her Majesty's Government would discourage revolutionary movements on the part of the refugees in London, and their regret that Her Majesty's Government, by sending to France an answer identical to that which had been addressed by Her Majesty's Government to the other Powers, should appear to entertain an idea that the presentation of the French note on the subject of the refugees was part of a combined scheme with those Powers. Count Walewski stated that this was not the case; that France had acted alone in this matter; that the French communication of the 29th of October merely inclosed a memorandum drawn up for the use of the Minister of the Interior; and that in this communication no future course of action had been pointed out.

From the Representative of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia I have received a very dispassionate and argumentative paper, which has been followed by the communication of a despatch from Count Nesselrode to Baron Brunnow, of a friendly and conciliatory tenor; and from you, M. le Comte, I have received communication of a despatch from Prince Schwarzenberg, in which, while professing the hope that the British Government will henceforth make more ample use of the means at its disposal for repressing the intrigues of the refugees, his Highness, contrary to the belief expressed by me in my despatch to the Earl of Westmorland of the 13th ultimo, that it would be in the highest degree unworthy of the enlightened character of any European Government to put vexatious impediments in the way of unoffending English travellers, by way of retaliation for the acts of foreign refugees in England, threatens, in terms to which I will not further advert, to renew precautions become obsolete with regard to such travellers, and reserves to himself the power of considering still more stringent measures.

The correspondence on this matter having arrived at this point, I have received with great surprise your note of the 21st instant, informing me that you had been instructed by your Government to recommend to the mature consideration of Her Majesty's Government, the note addressed by Cardinal Antonelli to Count Esterhazy on the same question.

The Queen's Government has always been most willing to communicate with the Representative of Austria, and especially with yourself, on any subject which affects the common interests of the two countries, or the general peace and prosperity of Europe; but I cannot admit the right of the Austrian Represen-

tative at this Court to make official communications on behalf of Italian Courts by whom he is not accredited to Her Majesty ; and I must, therefore, under the circumstance which I have above recapitulated, return to you your notes of the 7th of January and of the 21st of February, communicating the representations of the Modenese and Papal Governments as to the proceedings of the foreign refugees resident in England.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 5.

Count Buol to Earl Granville.

M. le Comte,

Londres, 27 Février, 1852.

J'AI reçu hier au soir, 26, l'office que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser en date du 23 du courant, et par lequel elle a bien voulu me donner un résumé des différentes réponses qui ont été faites à la dépêche adressée en date du 13 Janvier, aux Agens Diplomatiques de Sa Majesté Britannique, par rapport aux réclamations élevées contre les graves abus auxquels la tolérance accordée aux réfugiés politiques accueillis en Angleterre avait donné lieu, et communiquée par eux aux Gouvernemens d'Autriche, de France, de Prusse, et de Russie, et à la Confédération Germanique. Cet exposé a, si j'interprète bien le sens de votre lettre, M. le Comte, dû servir à motiver la restitution que vous m'avez faite à la même occasion, de la note du 7 Janvier, par laquelle le Cabinet Britannique a été prévenu que le Gouvernement de Modène se joignait aux représentations que la Cour d'Autriche avait cru devoir faire à ce sujet, ainsi que de la copie d'une note que le Cabinet du St. Père a adressée en date du 22 Janvier, à l'Envoyé de l'Empereur à Rome pour réclamer les bons offices de la Cour Impériale afin que le Cabinet Britannique fût instruit de ces mêmes dispositions de la part du St. Siège.

Bien qu'il me soit impossible de partager, ni même de m'expliquer d'une manière concluante, les motifs qui ont pu porter votre Excellence à me renvoyer ces pièces, je croirais, surtout dans les conjonctures du moment, superflu de soulever une polémique à ce sujet. Toutefois je ne saurais supprimer le vif regret que m'a fait éprouver cette démarche ; j'ai peine, surtout, à me rendre compte du fondement des observations qu'elle soulève au sujet de la communication faite au nom de Son Altesse Royale Monseigneur le Duc de Modène. Ce Souverain, si étroitement allié par les liens du sang à l'auguste Maison d'Autriche, a de tout temps eu recours à l'entremise de son Cabinet pour faire parvenir ses communications officielles aux Cours où son Gouvernement ne se trouvait pas représenté, et cette manière de procéder, n'a, si ma vieille expérience en diplomatie ne me trompe pas complètement, jamais donné lieu à une observation, ni de la part d'aucune Cour Continentale, ni même de celle de la Grande Bretagne. Comment donc m'expliquer que votre Excellence ait pu, après avoir gardé cette pièce six semaines dans son Cabinet, et lorsque les peu de mots que nous échangeâmes à ce sujet ne m'avaient laissé d'autre impression si ce n'était qu'elle ne jugeait pas nécessaire de m'adresser une réponse spéciale ; comment, dis-je, m'expliquer qu'elle ait cependant jugé aujourd'hui convenable de me la rendre ?

Je ne saurais également, M. le Comte, vous dissimuler entièrement la surprise que j'ai éprouvée en apprenant que votre Excellence avait cru devoir élever des objections contre la voie à laquelle la Cour du St. Siège, à défaut de relations directes entre elle et le Cabinet Britannique, a eu recours pour lui faire parvenir ses représentations.

Les scrupules qui vous empêchent, M. le Comte, de déposer cette pièce aux archives du Département pour les Affaires Etrangères, émanant uniquement de la raison que je n'ai pas l'honneur de représenter officiellement le St. Siège auprès du Gouvernement Britannique, ne me semblent pas fondés sur les usages diplomatiques. De plus, le contenu de la pièce même m'aurait paru de nature à devoir lever toute difficulté. Elle était évidemment inspirée par une vive sollicitude de voir cesser un état de choses préjudiciable aux rapports internationaux et à la reconsolidation du repos ébranlé de l'Europe ; elle expri-

maît, de plus, la confiance que Sa Sainteté plaçait dans les vues éclairées et dans les intentions bienveillantes du Gouvernement Britannique.

Je ne manquerai pas, au reste, de soumettre à ma Cour la communication de votre Excellence ; je dois la laisser juge de la valeur qu'elle croira devoir attacher à un procédé, qui, entre des Gouvernemens qui se professent réciproquement des sentimens d'amitié et de bonne entente devrait, tout au plus, n'être que l'effet d'une méprise.

Votre lettre, M. le Comte, se réfère, plus d'une fois, à la communication uniforme que vous avez, au nom du Cabinet Britannique, adressé le 13 Janvier aux Cours principales de l'Europe, et j'éprouve moins de peine à vous suggérer mes observations à ce sujet.

Votre Excellence me permettra de lui rappeler que le Cabinet Autrichien a puisé avec plaisir dans les assurances contenues dans cette pièce, l'espoir que le Cabinet Britannique parviendrait à empêcher à l'avenir toute tentative d'insurrection contre des Gouvernemens amis et alliés, et que l'énoncé de ces dispositions a déjà suffi pour engager le Gouvernement Impérial à surseoir en majeure partie aux mesures restrictives qu'il se verrait dans le cas contraire, contraint de prendre dans l'intérêt de ses peuples. Je me plais à reconnaître, de plus, que les différens entretiens que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir avec votre Excellence m'ont tous laissé l'impression que le Cabinet Britannique reconnaît l'importance de prévenir la continuation de machinations ouvertement hostiles aux Etats du Continent ; et si les notions que j'ai recueillies m'ont bien renseigné, votre Excellence aurait même, pendant la durée passagère de son Ministère, dans les limites sans doute très réservées que lui offre la législation de la Grande Bretagne, déjà voué des soins méritoires à cet objet. J'ajouterai même, et je n'ai pas manqué de faire valoir cette circonstance auprès de ma Cour, que si les effets n'ont jusqu'à présent que faiblement répondu aux dispositions énoncées, on ne saurait l'attribuer qu'à des raisons tout-à-fait indépendantes des intentions du Cabinet Britannique et de la volonté de votre Excellence.

En lui adressant le présent office, qui m'a paru nécessaire pour compléter notre correspondance officielle par rapport à l'affaire des réfugiés politiques, je saisis, &c.

(Signé) BUOL.

(Translation.)

M. le Comte,

London, February 27, 1852.

I RECEIVED yesterday evening, the 26th, the official note which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 28th instant, and by which you have been pleased to recapitulate the several replies which have been made to the despatch addressed on the 13th of January to the Diplomatic Agents of Her Britannic Majesty, with respect to the representations which had been made against the grave abuse of the toleration granted to the political refugees who had found refuge in England, which despatch had been communicated by those Agents to the Governments of Austria, of France, of Prussia, of Russia, and to the Germanic Confederation. This recital was, if I rightly interpret the sense of your letter, M. le Comte, intended to explain the reason of your returning on the same occasion the note of the 7th January, by which the British Cabinet was informed that the Government of Modena concurred in the representation which the Court of Austria had thought it right to make on this subject, as well as the copy of a note which the Cabinet of the Holy Father addressed on the 22nd of January to the Envoy of the Emperor at Rome, for the purpose of claiming the good offices of the Imperial Court, in order that the British Cabinet might be informed that the Holy See was similarly disposed.

Although I am unable to share in, nor indeed to explain to myself in a conclusive manner, the reasons which may have induced your Excellency to return these documents to me, I should think it, especially in the present juncture of affairs, superfluous to raise a discussion on the subject. I nevertheless cannot suppress the lively regret which this proceeding has caused me ; I have especial difficulty in explaining to myself the ground of the observations which you make as regards the communication made in the name of His Royal

Highness the Duke of Modena. That Sovereign, so closely allied by the ties of blood to the August House of Austria, has at all times had recourse to the medium of the Austrian Cabinet, for the purpose of causing his official communications to reach Courts where his Government is not represented; and this mode of proceeding has, unless my longstanding experience in diplomacy deceives me completely, not given occasion to any observation on the part of any Continental Court, nor even on the part of that of Great Britain. How can I then explain to myself that your Excellency should, after having kept that document six weeks in your cabinet, and when the few words which were exchanged on that subject had left no other impression on my mind than that you did not think it necessary to address me a special reply; how, I repeat it, can I explain to myself that you should nevertheless have thought fitting to return that document to me now?

I am equally unable, M. le Comte, entirely to conceal from you the surprise which I have experienced on learning that your Excellency had thought yourself bound to advance objections against the medium to which the Court of the Holy See, in the absence of direct relations with Great Britain, had recourse for the transmission of its representations.

The scruples which hinder you, M. le Comte, to deposit that document in the archives of the Department for Foreign Affairs, emanating solely from the circumstance that I have not the honour officially to represent the Holy See with the British Government, do not appear to me grounded on diplomatic usage. The contents of the document itself would, moreover, have appeared to be of a nature to obviate all difficulty. It was evidently dictated by a lively solicitude to see a state of things prejudicial to international interests and to the re-establishment of the shaken tranquillity of Europe cease; it moreover expressed the reliance which His Holiness placed in the enlightened views and the amicable intentions of the British Government.

I shall not fail, however, to submit your Excellency's communication to my Court. I must leave it to that Court to judge what value it may think fit to attach to a proceeding, which, between Governments who reciprocally profess sentiments of friendship and good understanding, can only be at the very utmost, the result of a mistake.

Your letter, M. le Comte, refers more than once to the uniform communication which you addressed on the 13th of January to the principal Courts of Europe, and I find less difficulty in submitting to you my observations on this subject.

Your Excellency will allow me to remind you that the Austrian Cabinet has with pleasure conceived the hope from the expressions contained in that document, that the British Government would for the future be able to prevent all attempts at insurrection against friendly and allied Governments, and that the avowal of such intention has already sufficed to induce the Imperial Government to suspend for the greater part the restrictive measures which under contrary circumstances they would have seen themselves compelled to adopt in the interest of their subjects. I am happy, moreover, to acknowledge that the different interviews which I have had the honour to hold with your Excellency have left me with the impression that the British Government admits the importance of providing against the continuance of intrigues openly hostile to the States of the Continent; and if the information which I have gathered has been accurate, your Excellency will, during the transitory duration of your Ministry, have within the very restricted limits which the legislation of Great Britain prescribes, already devoted your meritorious attention to this object. I will even add, and I have not failed to give its value to this circumstance in reporting to my Court, that if the results have hitherto only feebly responded to the disposition which has been avowed, this must be attributed to reasons entirely independent of the intentions of the British Cabinet and of the will of your Excellency.

In addressing to you the present official note, which has appeared to me necessary to complete our official correspondence as regards the political refugees, I avail, &c.

(Signed) BUOL.

No. 6.

The Hon. Sir W. Temple to Earl Granville.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Naples, February 18, 1852.

IN conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing to me a copy of a representation made to your Lordship by the Prince Carini, on the part of the Government of His Sicilian Majesty, to the same effect as that which had been made to Her Majesty's Government by the Governments of Vienna, St. Petersburg, Paris, and Frankfort, on the subject of the foreign refugees now residing in England, and directing me to deliver to the Neapolitan Minister for Foreign Affairs a copy of your Lordship's despatch to Her Majesty's Ministers and Chargés d'Affaires accredited to those Governments, containing your Lordship's instructions in reply to their representations; I called upon M. Carafa, and delivered to him a copy of that despatch, accompanied by a note, of which I transmit to your Lordship a copy.

Having read to M. Carafa the note and the copy of your Lordship's despatch, when I left them with him he informed me that having entered so recently upon the functions of his office, he was not fully acquainted with the circumstances to which they referred, and he therefore abstained from offering any observation upon the subject; but I have since received from him a note, a copy and translation of which I inclose to your Lordship, simply acknowledging the receipt of the communication made to him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. TEMPLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

The Hon. Sir W. Temple to M. Carafa.

Naples, February 9, 1852.

THE Earl Granville, Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, having on the 14th of last month addressed an instruction to Her Britannic Majesty's Ministers at Vienna and St. Petersburg, and to Her Britannic Majesty's Chargés d'Affaires at Paris and Frankfort, in reply to the representations which had been made to Her Majesty's Government by the Governments to which they were accredited, on the subject of the proceedings of foreign refugees now residing in England; and his Lordship having since received from His Sicilian Majesty's Minister at the British Court a representation on the part of his Government to the same effect as that which had been made by the other Governments; has instructed the Undersigned, &c., to deliver to the Commendatore Carafa, &c., a copy of the above-mentioned despatch as the reply of Her Majesty's Government to the communication made to them on the part of the Government of His Sicilian Majesty.

The Undersigned accordingly, in conformity with his instructions, has the honour of communicating herewith to the Commendatore Carafa, the inclosed copy of the despatch containing the instruction, and he avails, &c.

(Signed) W. TEMPLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

M. Carafa to the Hon. Sir W. Temple.

Napoli, 13 febbrajo, 1852.

IL Sottoscritto, &c., ha ricevuto esattamente la nota di 9 del corrente mese di sua Eccellenza il Cavaliere Temple, &c., con cui si è compiaciuta trasmettergli la copia del dispaccio indirizzato dal Conte di Granville a Rappresentanti Inglesi residenti in Vienna, Pietroburgo, Parigi, e Francfort.

Egli coglie, &c.
(Firmato) CARAFA.

(Translation.)

Naples, February 13, 1852.

THE Undersigned, &c., has duly received the note of the 9th instant from his Excellency the Chevalier Temple, &c., with which he has been pleased to transmit to him a copy of the despatch addressed by Earl Granville to the British Representatives at Vienna, St. Petersburg, Paris, and Frankfort.

He avails, &c.

(Signed) CARAFA.

No. 7.

Prince Schwarzenberg to Count Buol.—(Communicated to the Earl of Malmesbury by Count Buol, March 10.)

M. le Comte,

Vienne, le 5 Mars, 1852.

LA nouvelle de la formation du nouveau Ministère sous les auspices du Comte de Derby a été accueillie par le Cabinet Impérial avec un sentiment de véritable satisfaction.

Les espérances que les principes connus et les honorables antécédens du Premier Lord de la Trésorerie nous autorisaient à rattacher à son entrée aux affaires n'ont pas tardé à recevoir un nouvel aliment par le discours prononcé par Lord Derby dans la séance de la Chambre des Lords du 27 Février, discours tendant à exposer la marche politique qu'il compte suivre.

En autant que ce programme se rapporte aux affaires étrangères, nous nous félicitons de pouvoir souscrire sans réserve aux principes et aux intentions que le Comte de Derby a développés avec autant de franchise que de lucidité.

Le Cabinet qu'il préside, a dit le Premier, est pénétré de la nécessité de maintenir la paix universelle. Il pense que pour atteindre ce but il n'y a pas de meilleur moyen que de suivre envers toutes les Puissances étrangères une conduite calme et modérée, que de maintenir scrupuleusement les traités, et de respecter au plus haut degré l'indépendance de toutes les nations, grandes ou petites, et le droit qu'elles ont de diriger, comme elles l'entendent, leurs affaires intérieures.

Si le Gouvernement Anglais, a continué Lord Derby, avait lieu de se plaindre d'une autre nation, il exposerait ses griefs avec calme et modération, et en comptant sur l'honneur et la justice de ceux auxquels la plainte aurait été adressée. C'est en agissant ainsi que le Comte de Derby espère non seulement pouvoir maintenir les bienfaits de la paix, mais conserver les relations les plus bienveillantes et les plus amicales avec les diverses nations du monde.

Quant à nous, nous nous associons sincèrement à cet espoir, et nous sommes prêts à concourir loyalement à ce qu'il ne soit pas frustré.

Les intentions que Lord Derby a annoncées quant à la question des réfugiés politiques nous semblent également de nature à écarter désormais les sujets de discussion que cette question avait fait naître entre le Gouvernement Britannique et les États du Continent. L'Autriche, en son particulier, n'a jamais essayé de contester à l'Angleterre le droit d'accorder un asile à des réfugiés étrangers. Elle n'a protesté que contre l'abus que faisaient ces réfugiés de l'hospitalité dont ils jouissaient, en ourdissant des trames révolutionnaires au détriment de pays amis et alliés de l'Angleterre. Lord Derby a flétri cet abus, et il saura, nous n'en doutons pas, y obvier à l'avenir.

Je prie votre Excellence d'exprimer, tant à Lord Malmesbury qu'au Comte de Derby lui-même, l'impression favorable que les explications du Premier Ministre ont produit sur le Cabinet de l'Empereur. Elles ont fait naître ici l'espoir que les rapports entre les deux Gouvernemens pourront désormais reprendre ce caractère de franche et intime confiance que des événemens indépendans de notre volonté avaient plus ou moins altéré.

Recevez, &c.

(Signé) F. SCHWARZENBERG.

(Translation.)

M. le Comte,

Vienna, March 5, 1852.

THE intelligence of the formation of the new Government under the auspices of the Earl of Derby has been received by the Imperial Cabinet with a feeling of genuine satisfaction.

The hopes which the known principles and the honourable antecedents of the First Lord of the Treasury justify us in connecting with his assumption of office, have not failed to receive a fresh impulse from the speech pronounced by Lord Derby at the sitting of the House of Lords on the 27th of February, a speech in which the political course he intends to pursue is stated.

As far as that statement refers to foreign affairs we are happy to be able to adhere without reserve to the principles and intentions which the Earl of Derby has explained with so much candour and lucidity.

The Cabinet of which he is the head, the Premier said, is penetrated with the necessity of maintaining universal peace. He thinks that in order to attain this object there is no better means than to adopt towards all foreign Powers a calm and moderate demeanour, scrupulously to maintain treaties, and to respect in the highest degree the independence of all nations, great or small, and their right to manage according to their own convictions their internal affairs.

If the English Government, continued Lord Derby, had causes of complaint against another nation, he would set forth its grievances with calmness and moderation, and with confidence in the honour and justice of those to whom the complaint would have to be addressed. It is in acting thus that the Earl of Derby hopes, not alone to be able to preserve the blessings of peace, but likewise the most friendly and amicable relations with the several nations of the world.

As far as we are concerned, we adhere sincerely to this hope, and we are ready loyally to act in such wise that it may not be rendered nugatory.

The intention which Lord Derby has announced with respect to the political refugees appears to us likewise of a nature to remove henceforward the subjects of discussion to which this question has given rise between the British Government and the States of the Continent. Austria, as regards herself individually, has never endeavoured to dispute the right of England to grant an asylum to foreign refugees. She has only protested against the abuse by those refugees of the hospitality which they enjoyed, by hatching revolutionary intrigues, to the detriment of countries the friends and allies of England. Lord Derby has branded this abuse, and he will, we doubt not, prevent it for the future.

I beg that your Excellency will express, as well to Lord Malmesbury as to the Earl of Derby himself, the favourable impression which the explanations of the Premier have produced upon the Cabinet of the Emperor. They have given rise here to the hope that the relations between the two Governments may henceforward resume that character of frank and intimate confidence which events, independent of our will, have more or less troubled.

Receive, &c.

(Signed) F. SCHWARZENBERG.

No. 8.

The Earl of Malmesbury to Count Buol.

M. le Comte,

Foreign Office, March 15, 1852.

HER Majesty's Government have received with the liveliest pleasure the despatch to you from Prince Schwarzenberg of the 5th instant, which you have been authorized to communicate to me upon the part of the Cabinet of Vienna. In proportion to the value which Her Majesty's Government place upon the maintenance of a cordial friendship with Austria, the oldest ally of England, cemented not only by the tie of mutual interest, but by the recollection of past efforts in a common cause, was the regret with which Her Majesty's present

Government, on succeeding to office, found that the result of the events of the last few years had been to substitute for those friendly relations a tone of mutual suspicion if not of actual alienation, and to give to their diplomatic correspondence a character quite at variance with the dispositions which ought to subsist between them.

The despatch which you have recently placed in my hands affords the greater satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government, because, without reference to the past, it lays the foundation of a renewed good understanding between the two countries, upon the spontaneous expression of the views of Her Majesty's present Government, as announced by the First Lord of the Treasury in the face of his own country and of Europe, in reference to the principles on which they intended to conduct the foreign affairs of the United Kingdom.

Her Majesty's Government rejoice to find in your communication a full confirmation of the confident hope entertained by Lord Derby, that the surest mode of arriving at a good understanding with the nations of the civilized world, was a frank and honest exposition of principles, to be frankly and honestly acted upon; and it is with the most unfeigned pleasure, though with no surprise, that Her Majesty's Government receive the assurance that the Court of Vienna subscribes without reserve to the principles and intentions developed by the First Minister of the Crown.

Keeping steadily in view those principles and intentions, maintaining inviolate the sacred right of according hospitality towards those whom misfortunes or political offences may have banished from their native land; discouraging and repressing as far as the law and the constitution warrant, any attempt on the part of such exiles to abuse the hospitality they enjoy, by seeking to foment disturbance in their own country; restrained by the highest obligations of duty from straining that law beyond its legitimate bounds, but visiting with exemplary punishment those who may violate the law; Her Majesty's Government feel assured that they shall have no difficulty in reconciling their duty as Ministers of a Constitutional Sovereign with the obligations which they owe to the just claims of any friendly Power, and the sentiments of sincere friendship with which they are actuated towards the Court of Vienna.

May I request of you, M. le Comte, to express to Prince Schwarzenberg, personally, on my own part as well as on that of Lord Derby, how highly we value the friendly feelings which his Highness has been pleased to express, and how anxious we and all the members of Her Majesty's Government feel that no circumstances should occur to interrupt the good understanding which I may hope is now firmly established between the two Governments.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 9.

Count Buol to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 15.)

Londres, 12 Mars, 1852.

LE Gouvernement Impérial d'Autriche a jugé à propos d'établir des normes plus précises par rapport aux réglemens de passeports pour les étrangers qui voyagent dans les Etats Impériaux, et le Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique, a reçu l'ordre d'en donner connaissance au Cabinet Britannique.

L'usage qui s'est établi de plus en plus que des étrangers se munissent de passeports émanant d'une autorité autre que celle de leurs Gouvernemens respectifs, ayant donné lieu à différens abus et inconvéniens, il a été jugé utile de l'abolir pour l'avenir. Le Soussigné a l'honneur, en conséquence, de prévenir son Excellence M. le Comte de Malmesbury, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat au Département des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, qu'il sera requis dorénavant que tout sujet Britannique ou Ionien soit muni ou d'un passeport de l'autorité compétente Britannique ou du Gouvernement des Iles Ioniennes, et que les uns et les autres y fussent désignés ou comme sujets Britanniques ou comme sujets des dites îles. Quant aux voyageurs qui présentement ne se trouveraient pas muni d'un docu-

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ment pareil, il suffira qu'ils se procurent des passeports, ou d'une Mission de la Grande Bretagne ou même d'un Consulat légalement installé, et les soumettent aux visas des Légations d'Autriche pour l'entrée dans les Etats Impériaux. De même, l'absence de la désignation de la nationalité sur les passeports Anglais des voyageurs qui se trouvent sur le Continent, pourra être suppléée par les Missions et Consulats Britanniques, en le mentionnant sur leurs visas.

En ayant l'honneur de faire part à son Excellence de la précédente disposition, qui s'étend aux voyageurs de toute nationalité, le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé) BUOL.

(Translation.)

London, March 12, 1852.

THE Imperial Government of Austria has thought it fit to establish more precise forms as regards the regulations applicable to the passports of foreigners travelling in the Imperial States, and the Undersigned, &c., has received instructions to communicate the same to the British Cabinet.

The custom, which has more and more established itself, of foreigners furnishing themselves with passports emanating from an authority other than that of their respective Governments, having given rise to divers abuses and inconveniences, it has been thought useful to abolish it for the future. The Undersigned has consequently the honour to inform the Earl of Malmesbury, &c., that it will henceforward be required that every British or Ionian subject should be furnished with a passport of a competent British or Ionian authority, and that both the one and the other should be therein designated as British subjects, or subjects of the said islands. As regards travellers who are at the present moment unprovided with such a passport, it will suffice that they should procure for themselves passports, either from a British Mission or even from a legally constituted Consulate, and should submit them for the *visa* of the Austrian Missions for entry into the Imperial States. The omission of the specification of nationality on English passports of travellers who are already on the Continent, may in like manner be remedied by the British Missions and Consulates, mentioning it in their visas.

In having the honour to communicate to his Excellency the preceding regulation, which is applicable to travellers of all nations, the Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) BUOL.

No. 10.

The Earl of Malmesbury to Count Buol.

Foreign Office, March 19, 1852.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the official note addressed to him on the 12th instant, by Count Buol, &c., communicating to Her Majesty's Government the regulations which have been adopted by the Austrian Government as regards the passports of foreigners travelling in the Austrian dominions; and has the honour in reply to communicate to Count Buol a copy of the regulations under which passports are issued by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and to call Count Buol's attention to paragraphs 3 and 5 of those regulations, by which he will see that passports are never granted at the Foreign Office except to British subjects, and the precautions under which even such passports are granted.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MALMESBURY.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Regulations respecting Foreign Office Passports.

1. APPLICATIONS for Foreign Office Passports must be made in writing, and addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with the word "Passport" written upon the cover.

2. The fee on the issue of a Passport is 7s. 6d.
3. Foreign Office Passports are granted only to British subjects, including in that description foreigners who have been naturalized by Act of Parliament, or by Certificates of Naturalization granted before the 24th day of August, 1850; in this latter case, the party is described in the Passport as a "Naturalized British subject."
4. Passports are granted between the hours of twelve and four, on the day following that on which the application for the Passport has been received at the Foreign Office.
5. Passports are granted to persons who are either known to the Secretary of State or recommended to him by some person who is known to him; or upon the written application of any *banking firm* established in London or in any other part of the United Kingdom.
6. Passports cannot be sent by the Foreign Office to persons already abroad. Such persons should apply to the nearest British Mission or Consulate.
7. Foreign Office Passports must be countersigned at the Mission, or at some Consulate in England, of the Government of the country which the bearer of the passport intends to visit.
8. A Foreign Office Passport granted for one journey may be used for any subsequent journey, *if countersigned afresh* by the Ministers or Consuls of the countries which the bearer intends to visit.

Foreign Office, February 20, 1851.

No. 11.

The Earl of Westmorland to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 22.)

My Lord,

Vienna, March 17, 1852.

AN article has appeared in a semi-official newspaper of this capital ("Oesterreiche Correspondenz"), relating to and explaining the measures which the Austrian Government are about to adopt for the regulation of the passports of foreigners entering the Austrian States.

As I am aware that the sentiments put forward in this article with regard to the application of this measure to English travellers is entirely in conformity with the feelings of this Government, I have the honour of inclosing it, together with a translation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WESTMORLAND.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Article from the "Oesterreichische Correspondenz" of March 16, 1852.

(Translation.)

SEVERAL foreign, and especially English, newspapers, have lately repeatedly discussed a measure of the Imperial Government, in consequence of which they asserted that very stringent and harassing regulations had been made respecting British subjects travelling in the Austrian dominions; and some have even asserted that the contemplated measure was an act of hostility on the part of the Imperial Government. We are in a position to enable us to point out this opinion as a totally false one; and the following explanation of the real state of the case will, we trust, certainly confirm every impartial person in the conviction that the Imperial Government, very far from wishing to place greater restrictions in the way of British subjects travelling in the Austrian dominions, than those enjoined on all travellers in Austria by the existing passport regulations, or to render a residence in Austria in any way disagreeable to them, only intended in this case, that British subjects should be treated according to precisely the same regulations observed towards all foreigners visiting the Austrian dominions.

In order to explain this clearly, we must first mention that for a long time past a practice has been prevalent among Englishmen, of travelling on the

Continent with passports furnished to them not by English authorities, but by foreign Missions in England, or even by Consulates.

It is obvious that such a practice, especially at the present time, when England, in consequence of the right of asylum afforded by her laws, is become the residence of political refugees of all nations, and when persons, not subjects of Great Britain, but only taking up a temporary residence in England, could so easily make use of passports obtained in this manner in England, must be subject to very great abuse; and the Imperial Government could feel itself the more justified in extending the existing general passport regulations to British subjects, as the formerly very considerable sum demanded for a Foreign Office passport has since a year been reduced to the sum only of seven shillings and sixpence; thereby doing away with the chief reason which induced British subjects formerly to apply for passports to foreign Missions or Consulates in London.

The Imperial Government was therefore perfectly justified in asserting the principle, that, as has hitherto been the rule with the subjects of all other countries, and which has hitherto not been so stringently enforced in the case of English travellers, merely in consequence of a practice founded neither on any law or argument of any kind; therefore, in future, a passport from some competent British or Ionian authority will be required of all British or Ionian subjects for their entry into, or residence in, Austria, in which they are expressly stated to be British or Ionian subjects.

It was also stated that British travellers at that time on the Continent should not be unexpectedly molested by the new law, and it was therefore only to come into operation on the 1st of May of the current year, so that every British Mission and Consulate might be informed in time of the above-mentioned measure.

British or Ionian subjects having left their country before the 1st of May, and in possession of English or Ionian passports, in which the country they belong to is not stated, will find no difficulty in entering the Austrian dominions, so long as they have the official visa of an Austrian Mission; but should those travellers at that period residing in Austria, only be in possession of foreign passports (*i. e.*, not English), they are requested to exchange the same for English passports, and they are allowed three months' time for that purpose. In cases where no doubt can be entertained of the country to which they belong by the authorities of the towns in which they are residing, those individuals are sure not to meet with any difficulties whatever.

These measures will in no way affect travelers by the overland route from India to Trieste, as the former regulations as to the passports of those travellers remain in force.

The above statement must clear away every suspicion as to the intention of the Austrian Government to place difficulties in the way of English travellers visiting the Imperial dominions; and we are convinced that the British Government, as well as every impartial individual, will only see a very natural wish in the Imperial Government to keep away from the frontiers of Austria those travellers, who, seeking every means to propagate their dangerous doctrines, assume the false title of English travellers, and, demanding British protection, cause the proceedings of British authorities to be viewed in a false light.

The authorities, far from wishing to make the residence in Austria disagreeable to English travellers by useless interference, will endeavour to show, by acting in the spirit of their Government, that although the maintenance of peace and order requires a strict adherence to the laws of the country, yet they are far from placing trifling annoyances in the way of the natives of a country to which Austria is bound by so many and so great historical recollections, as well as by so many sympathies and interests.

We repeat, therefore, that this introduction of new measures is not directed against England, but with a view to place all travellers coming to Austria on the same equal footing, and that there has been no question of introducing new and exceptional laws, but, on the contrary, of bringing into operation old and long-existing laws, which had, with respect to the travellers of every other nation, long been in force.

FOREIGN REFUGEES.

Further Correspondence respecting the
Foreign Refugees in London.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. March 29, 1852.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

Signed at Paris, November 3, 1851.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1852.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

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CONVENTION
 BETWEEN
 HER MAJESTY
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 THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,
 FOR
 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

Signed at Paris, November 3, 1851.

[*Ratifications exchanged at Paris, January 8, 1852.*]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the President of the French Republic, being equally desirous of extending in each country the enjoyment of copyright to works of literature and of the fine arts which may be first published in the other; and Her Britannic Majesty having consented to extend to books, prints, and musical works published in France, that reduction of the duties now levied thereon on importation into the United Kingdom, which she is by law empowered to grant, under certain circumstances, in favour of such works published in foreign countries; Her Britannic Majesty and the President of the French Republic have deemed it expedient to conclude a special Convention for that purpose, and have therefore named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Constantine Henry, Marquess of Normanby, a Peer of the United Kingdom, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, and Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, &c., Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the French Republic;

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SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et le Président de la République Française, également animés du désir d'étendre dans les deux pays la jouissance des droits d'auteur pour les ouvrages de littérature et de beaux arts, qui pourront être publiés pour la première fois dans l'un des deux; et Sa Majesté Britannique ayant consenti à étendre aux livres, gravures, et œuvres musicales publiés en France, la réduction que la loi l'autorise à accorder, sous certaines conditions, dans le taux des droits actuellement perçus à l'importation dans le Royaume Uni de ces mêmes articles publiés en pays étrangers; Sa Majesté Britannique et le Président de la République Française ont jugé à propos de conclure dans ce but une Convention spéciale, et ont nommé à cet effet pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir:—

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, M. Constantin Henry, Marquess de Normanby, Pair du Royaume Uni, Chevalier du Très Noble Ordre de la Jarretière, Grand-Croix du Très Honorable Ordre du Bain, &c., son Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire près la République Française

And the President of the French Republic, M. Lewis Felix Stephen Turgot, Officer of the National Order of the Legion of Honour, Knight of the Royal Order of San Fernando of Spain, Second Class, &c. &c., and Minister for the Department of Foreign Affairs ;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles :—

ARTICLE I.

From and after the date on which, according to the provisions of Article XIV, the present Convention shall come into operation, the authors of works of literature or of art, to whom the laws of either of the two countries do now or may hereafter give the right of property, or copyright, shall be entitled to exercise that right in the territories of the other of such countries for the same term, and to the same extent, as the authors of works of the same nature, if published in such other country, would therein be entitled to exercise such right ; so that the republication or piracy in either country, of any work of literature or of art, published in the other, shall be dealt with in the same manner as the republication or piracy of a work of the same nature first published in such other country ; and so that such authors in the one country shall have the same remedies before the courts of justice in the other country, and shall enjoy in that other country the same protection against piracy and unauthorized republication, as the law now does or may hereafter grant to authors in that country.

The terms “works of literature or of art,” employed at the beginning of this Article, shall be understood to comprize publications of books, of dramatic works, of musical compositions, of drawing, of painting, of sculpture, of engraving, of lithography, and of any other works whatsoever of literature and of the fine arts.

The lawful representatives or assigns of authors, translators, composers, painters, sculptors, or engravers, shall, in all respects, enjoy the same rights which by the present Convention are granted to the authors, translators, composers, painters, sculptors, or engravers themselves.

Et le Président de la République Française, M. Louis Félix Etienne Turgot, Officier de l'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur, Chevalier de l'Ordre Royal de Saint Ferdinand d'Espagne de 2e Classe, &c. &c., Ministre au Département des Affaires Etrangères ;

Lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des Articles suivans :—

ARTICLE I.

A partir de l'époque à laquelle, conformément aux stipulations de l'Article XIV ci-après, la présente Convention deviendra exécutoire, les auteurs d'œuvres de littérature ou d'art, auxquelles les lois de l'un des deux pays garantissent actuellement, ou garantiront à l'avenir, le droit de propriété ou d'auteur, auront la faculté d'exercer le dit droit sur les territoires de l'autre pays pendant le même espace de temps, et dans les mêmes limites, que s'exercerait dans cet autre pays le droit attribué aux auteurs d'ouvrages de même nature qui y seraient publiés ; de telle sorte que la reproduction ou la contrefaçon dans l'un des deux états, de toute œuvre de littérature ou d'art, publiée dans l'autre, sera traitée de la même manière que le serait la reproduction ou la contrefaçon d'ouvrages de même nature originairement publiés dans cet autre état ; et que les auteurs de l'un des deux pays auront, devant les tribunaux de l'autre, la même action, et jouiront des mêmes garanties contre la contrefaçon ou la reproduction non autorisée, que celles que la loi accorde, ou pourrait accorder à l'avenir, aux auteurs de ce dernier pays.

Il est entendu que ces mots “œuvres de littérature ou d'art,” employés au commencement de cet Article, comprennent les publications de livres, d'ouvrages dramatiques, de composition musicale, de dessin, de peinture, de sculpture, de gravure, de lithographie, et de toute autre production quelconque de littérature et de beaux arts.

Les mandataires ou ayants-cause des auteurs, traducteurs, compositeurs, peintres, sculpteurs, ou graveurs, jouiront à tous égards des mêmes droits que ceux que la présente Convention accorde aux auteurs, traducteurs, compositeurs, peintres, sculpteurs, ou graveurs eux-mêmes.

ARTICLE II.

The protection granted to original works is extended to translations; it being, however, clearly understood, that the intention of the present Article is simply to protect a translator in respect of his own translation, and that it is not intended to confer upon the first translator of any work the exclusive right of translating that work, except in the case and to the extent provided for in the following Article.

ARTICLE III.

The author of any work published in either of the two countries, who may choose to reserve the right of translating it, shall, until the expiration of five years from the date of the first publication of the translation thereof authorized by him, be, in the following cases, entitled to protection from the publication in the other country of any translation of such work not so authorized by him :

§ 1. If the original work shall have been registered and deposited in the one country within three months after its first publication in the other.

§ 2. If the author has notified on the title-page of his work his intention to reserve the right of translating it.

§ 3. Provided always, that at least a part of the authorized translation shall have appeared within a year after the registration and deposit of the original, and that the whole shall have been published within three years after the date of such deposit.

§ 4. And provided that the publication of the translation shall take place within one of the two countries, and that it shall be registered and deposited according to the provisions of Article VIII.

With regard to works which are published in parts, it will be sufficient if the declaration of the author that he reserves the right of translation, shall appear in the first part. But with reference to the period of five years limited by this Article for the exercise of the exclusive right of translation, each part shall be treated as a separate work, and each part shall be registered and deposited in the one country within three months after its first publication in the other.

ARTICLE II.

La protection accordée aux ouvrages originaux est étendue aux traductions. Il est bien entendu toutefois, que l'objet du présent Article est simplement de protéger le traducteur par rapport à sa propre traduction, et non pas de conférer le droit exclusif de traduction au premier traducteur d'un ouvrage quelconque, hormis dans le cas et les limites prévus par l'Article suivant.

ARTICLE III.

L'auteur de tout ouvrage publié dans l'un des deux pays, qui aura entendu réserver son droit de traduction, jouira, pendant cinq années à partir du jour de la première publication de la traduction de son ouvrage autorisée par lui, du privilège de protection contre la publication dans l'autre pays de toute traduction du même ouvrage non autorisée par lui, et ce sous les conditions suivantes :

§ 1. L'ouvrage original sera enregistré et déposé dans l'un des deux pays, dans un délai de trois mois à partir du jour de la première publication dans l'autre pays.

§ 2. Il faudra que l'auteur ait indiqué en tête de son ouvrage l'intention de se réserver le droit de traduction.

§ 3. La dite traduction autorisée devra avoir paru, au moins en partie, dans le délai d'un an à compter de la date de l'enregistrement et du dépôt de l'original, et en totalité dans le délai de trois ans à partir du dit dépôt.

§ 4. La traduction devra être publiée dans l'un des deux pays, et être enregistrée et déposée conformément aux dispositions de l'Article VIII.

Pour les ouvrages publiés par livraisons, il suffira que la déclaration de l'auteur, qu'il entend se réserver le droit de traduction, soit exprimée dans la première livraison. Toutefois, en ce qui concerne le terme de cinq ans assigné par cet Article pour l'exercice du droit privilégié de traduction, chaque livraison sera considérée comme un ouvrage séparé, et chacune d'elles sera enregistrée et déposée dans l'un des deux pays dans les trois mois à partir de sa première publication dans l'autre.

ARTICLE IV.

The stipulations of the preceding Articles shall also be applicable to the representation of dramatic works, and to the performance of musical compositions, in so far as the laws of each of the two countries are or shall be applicable in this respect to dramatic and musical works first publicly represented or performed therein.

In order, however, to entitle the author to legal protection in regard to the translation of a dramatic work, such translation must appear within three months after the registration and deposit of the original.

It is understood that the protection stipulated by the present Article is not intended to prohibit fair imitations, or adaptations of dramatic works to the stage in England and France respectively, but is only meant to prevent piratical translations.

The question whether a work is an imitation or a piracy, shall in all cases be decided by the courts of justice of the respective countries, according to the laws in force in each.

ARTICLE V.

Notwithstanding the stipulations of Articles I and II of the present Convention, articles extracted from newspapers or periodicals published in either of the two countries, may be republished or translated in the newspapers or periodicals of the other country, provided the source from whence such articles are taken be acknowledged.

Nevertheless, this permission shall not be construed to authorize the republication in one of the two countries, of articles from newspapers or periodicals published in the other country, the authors of which shall have notified in a conspicuous manner in the journal or periodical in which such articles have appeared, that they forbid the republication thereof.

ARTICLE VI.

The importation into and the sale in either of the two countries of piratical copies of works which are protected

ARTICLE IV.

Les stipulations des Articles précédents s'appliqueront également à la représentation des ouvrages dramatiques, et à l'exécution des compositions musicales, en tant que les lois de chacun des deux pays sont ou seront applicables, sous ce rapport, aux ouvrages dramatiques et de musique représentés ou exécutés publiquement dans ces pays pour la première fois.

Toutefois, pour avoir droit à la protection légale, en ce qui concerne la traduction d'un ouvrage dramatique, l'auteur devra faire paraître sa traduction trois mois après l'enregistrement et le dépôt de l'ouvrage original.

Il est bien entendu que la protection stipulée par le présent Article n'a point pour objet de prohiber les imitations faites de bonne foi, ou les appropriations des ouvrages dramatiques aux scènes respectives d'Angleterre et de France, mais seulement d'empêcher les traductions en contrefaçon.

La question d'imitation ou de contrefaçon sera déterminée dans tous les cas par les tribunaux des pays respectifs, d'après la législation en vigueur dans chacun des deux états.

ARTICLE V.

Nonobstant les stipulations des Articles I et II de la présente Convention, les articles extraits de journaux ou de recueils périodiques publiés dans l'un des deux pays, pourront être reproduits ou traduits dans les journaux ou recueils périodiques de l'autre pays, pourvu qu'on y indique la source à laquelle on les aura puisés.

Toutefois, cette permission ne saurait être comprise comme s'étendant à la reproduction dans l'un des deux pays, des articles de journaux ou de recueils périodiques publiés dans l'autre, dont les auteurs auraient déclaré d'une manière évidente dans le journal ou le recueil même où ils les auront fait paraître, qu'ils en interdisent la reproduction.

ARTICLE VI.

Sont interdites l'importation et la vente, dans l'un ou l'autre des deux pays, de toute contrefaçon d'ouvrages

from piracy under Articles I, II, III, and V of the present Convention, are prohibited, whether such piratical copies originate in the country where the work was published, or in any other country.

ARTICLE VII.

In the event of an infraction of the provisions of the foregoing Articles, the pirated works or articles shall be seized and destroyed; and the persons who may have committed such infraction shall be liable in each country to the penalties and actions which are or may be prescribed by the laws of that country for such offences, committed in respect of a work or production of home origin.

ARTICLE VIII.

Neither authors, nor translators, nor their lawful representatives or assigns, shall be entitled in either country to the protection stipulated by the preceding Articles, nor shall copyright be claimable in either country, unless the work shall have been registered in the manner following, that is to say:—

1°. If the work be one that has first appeared in France, it must be registered at the Hall of the Company of Stationers in London.

2°. If the work be one that has first appeared in the dominions of Her Britannic Majesty, it must be registered at the *Bureau de la Librairie* of the Ministry of the Interior at Paris.

No person shall be entitled to such protection as aforesaid, unless he shall have duly complied with the laws and regulations of the respective countries in regard to the work in respect of which such protection may be claimed. With regard to books, maps, prints, or musical publications, no person shall be entitled to such protection, unless he shall have delivered gratuitously, at one or other of the places mentioned above, as the case may be, one copy of the best edition, or in the best state, in order to its being deposited at the place appointed for that purpose in each of the two countries; that is to say, in Great Britain, at the British Museum at London; and in France, at the National Library at Paris.

jouissant du privilège de protection contre la contrefaçon en vertu des Articles I, II, III, et V de la présente Convention, que ces contrefaçons soient originaires du pays où l'ouvrage a été publié, ou bien de toute autre contrée étrangère.

ARTICLE VII.

En cas de contravention aux dispositions des Articles précédens, les ouvrages ou objets contrefaits seront saisis et détruits; et les individus qui se seront rendus coupables de ces contraventions seront passibles, dans chaque pays, de la peine et des poursuites qui sont ou seraient prescrites par les lois de ce pays contre le même délit commis à l'égard de tout ouvrage ou production d'origine nationale.

ARTICLE VIII.

Les auteurs, traducteurs, de même que leurs représentans ou ayants-cause légalement désignés, n'auront droit, dans l'un et l'autre pays, à la protection stipulée par les Articles précédens, et le droit d'auteur ne pourra être réclaté dans l'un des deux pays, qu'après que l'ouvrage aura été enregistré de la manière suivante, savoir:—

1°. Si l'ouvrage a paru pour la première fois en France, il faudra qu'il ait été enregistré à l'Hôtel de la Corporation des Libraires (*Stationers' Hall*) à Londres.

2°. Si l'ouvrage a paru pour la première fois dans les états de Sa Majesté Britannique, il faudra qu'il ait été enregistré au Bureau de la Librairie du Ministère de l'Intérieur à Paris.

La susdite protection ne sera acquise qu'à celui qui aura fidèlement observé les lois et réglemens en vigueur dans les pays respectifs par rapport à l'ouvrage pour lequel cette protection serait réclamée. Pour les livres, cartes, estampes, ou publications musicales, la susdite protection ne sera acquise qu'autant que l'on aura remis gratuitement, dans l'un ou l'autre des dépôts mentionnés ci-dessus, suivant les cas respectifs, un exemplaire de la meilleure édition, ou dans le meilleur état, destiné à être déposé au lieu indiqué à cet effet dans chacun des deux pays; c'est-à-dire, dans la Grande Bretagne, au Musée Britannique à Londres; et en France, à la Bibliothèque Nationale de Paris.

In every case, the formality of deposit and registration must be fulfilled within three months after the first publication of the work in the other country. With regard to works published in parts, the period of three months shall not begin to run until the date of the publication of the last part, unless the author shall have notified his intention to reserve the right of translating it, as provided in Article III; in which case each part shall be treated as a separate work.

A certified copy of the entry in the Register Book of the Company of Stationers in London shall confer, within the British dominions, the exclusive right of republication, until a better right shall have been established by any other party before a court of justice.

The certificate given under the laws of France, proving the registration of any work in that country, shall be valid for the same purpose throughout the territories of the French Republic.

A certificate or certified copy of the registration of any work so registered in either country shall, if required, be delivered at the time of registration; and such certificate shall state the exact date at which the registration was made.

The charge for the registration of a single work, under the stipulations of this Article, shall not exceed one shilling in England, nor one franc and twenty-five centimes in France; and the further charge for a certificate of such registration shall not exceed the sum of five shillings in England, nor six francs and twenty-five centimes in France.

The provisions of this Article shall not extend to articles which may appear in newspapers or periodicals; which shall be protected from republication or translation simply by a notice from the author, as prescribed by Article V. But if any article or work which has originally appeared in a newspaper or periodical, shall afterwards be published in a separate form, it shall then become subject to the stipulations of the present Article.

Dans tous les cas, les formalités du dépôt et de l'enregistrement devront être remplies sous les trois mois qui suivront la première publication de l'ouvrage dans l'autre pays. A l'égard des ouvrages publiés par livraisons, ce délai de trois mois ne commencera à courir qu'à dater de la publication de la dernière livraison, à moins que l'auteur n'ait indiqué, conformément aux dispositions de l'Article III, son intention de se réserver le droit de traduction; auquel cas chaque livraison sera considérée comme un ouvrage séparé.

Une copie authentique de l'inscription sur le Registre de la Corporation des Libraires à Londres confèrera dans les états Britanniques le droit exclusif de reproduction, jusqu'à ce que quelqu'autre personne ait fait admettre devant un tribunal un droit mieux établi.

Le certificat délivré conformément aux lois Françaises, et constatant l'enregistrement d'un ouvrage dans ce pays, aura la même force et valeur dans toute l'étendue du territoire de la République Française.

Au moment de l'enregistrement d'un ouvrage dans l'un des deux pays, il en sera délivré, si on le demande, un certificat ou copie certifiée; et ce certificat relatera la date précise à laquelle l'enregistrement aura eu lieu.

Le coût d'enregistrement d'un seul ouvrage, conformément aux stipulations du présent Article, ne pourra pas dépasser la somme d'un shilling en Angleterre, et d'un franc vingt-cinq centimes en France; et les frais additionnels pour le certificat d'enregistrement ne devront pas excéder la somme de cinq shillings en Angleterre, ou de six francs vingt-cinq centimes en France.

Les présentes stipulations ne s'étendront pas aux articles de journaux ou de recueils périodiques; pour lesquels le simple avertissement de l'auteur, ainsi qu'il est prescrit à l'Article V, suffira pour garantir son droit contre la reproduction ou la traduction. Mais si un article ou un ouvrage qui aura paru pour la première fois dans un journal ou dans un recueil périodique, est ensuite reproduit à part, il restera alors soumis aux stipulations du présent Article.

ARTICLE IX.

With regard to any article other than books, prints, maps, and musical publications, in respect to which protection may be claimable under Article I of the present Convention, it is agreed, that any other mode of registration than that prescribed in the preceding Article, which is or may be applicable by law in one of the two countries to any work or article first published in such country, for the purpose of affording protection to copyright in such work or article, shall be extended on equal terms to any similar work or article first published in the other country.

ARTICLE X.

During the continuance of this Convention, the duties now payable upon the lawful importation into the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland of books, prints, drawings, or musical works, published throughout the territories of the French Republic, shall be reduced to and fixed at the rates hereinafter specified; that is to say—

1. Duties on books and musical works, viz.—

	£	s.	d.
(a) Works originally produced in the United Kingdom, and republished in France; the cwt. .	2	10	0
(b) Works not originally produced in the United Kingdom; the cwt. .	0	15	0

2. Prints or drawings:—

(a) Coloured or plain, single, each . . .	0	0	0½
(b) Bound or sewed, the dozen . . .	0	0	1½

It is agreed that the rates of duty above specified shall not be raised during the continuance of the present Convention: and that if hereafter, during the continuance of this Convention, any reduction of those rates should be made in favour of books, prints, drawings, or musical works published in any other country, such

ARTICLE IX.

Quant à ce qui concerne tout autre objet que les livres, estampes, cartes, et publications musicales, pour lesquels on pourrait réclamer la protection en vertu de l'Article I de la présente Convention, il est entendu que tout mode d'enregistrement autre que le mode prescrit par l'Article précédent, qui est ou qui pourrait être appliqué par la loi dans un des deux pays, à l'effet de garantir le droit de propriété à toute œuvre quelconque ou article mis pour la première fois au jour dans ce pays, le dit mode d'enregistrement sera étendu, sous des conditions égales, à toute œuvre ou objet similaire mis au jour pour la première fois dans l'autre pays.

ARTICLE X.

Pendant la durée de la présente Convention, les droits actuellement établis à l'importation licite dans le Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, des livres, gravures, dessins, ou ouvrages de musique publiés dans toute l'étendue du territoire de la République Française, demeurent réduits et fixés au taux ci-après établi, savoir:—

1. Droits sur les livres et œuvres de musique:—

	£	s.	d.
(a) Ouvrages publiés pour la première fois dans le Royaume Uni, et reproduits en France; par quintal Anglais . . .	2	10	0
(b) Ouvrages non publiés pour la première fois dans le Royaume Uni; par quintal Anglais . . .	0	15	0

2. Gravures ou dessins:—

(a) Coloriés ou non, chaque pièce . . .	0	0	0½
(b) Reliés ou brochés, la douzaine . . .	0	0	1½

Il est convenu que le taux des droits ci-dessus spécifiés ne sera pas augmenté pendant la durée de la présente Convention; et que si par la suite, pendant la durée de cette Convention, ce taux était réduit en faveur des livres, gravures, dessins, ou ouvrages de musique publiés dans tout autre pays, cette réduction s'étendra en

reduction shall be at the same time extended to similar articles published in France.

It is moreover understood that all works published in France, of which any part may have been originally produced in the United Kingdom, shall be considered as "works originally produced in the United Kingdom, and republished in France," and as such shall be subject to the duty of fifty shillings per cwt., although the same may contain also original matter not produced in the United Kingdom; unless such original matter shall be at least equal in bulk to the part of the work originally produced in the United Kingdom, in which case the work shall be subject only to the duty of fifteen shillings per cwt.

ARTICLE XI.

In order to facilitate the execution of the present Convention, the two High Contracting Parties engage to communicate to each other the laws and regulations which may hereafter be established in their respective territories, with respect to copyright in works or productions protected by the stipulations of the present Convention.

ARTICLE XII.

The stipulations of the present Convention shall in no way affect the right which each of the two High Contracting Parties expressly reserves to itself, of controuling or of prohibiting, by measures of legislation or of internal police, the sale, circulation, representation, or exhibition of any work or production, in regard to which either country may deem it expedient to exercise that right.

ARTICLE XIII.

Nothing in this Convention shall be construed to affect the right of either of the two High Contracting Parties to prohibit the importation into its own dominions, of such books as, by its internal law, or under engagements with other States, are or may be declared to be piracies, or infringements of copy-right.

même temps aux objets similaires publiés en France.

Il est en outre bien entendu que tout ouvrage publié en France, et dont une partie aura été mise au jour pour la première fois dans le Royaume Uni, sera considéré comme "ouvrage publié pour la première fois dans le Royaume Uni, et reproduit en France;" et à ce titre il sera soumis aux droits de cinquante shillings par quintal Anglais, alors même qu'il contiendrait encore des additions originales publiées ailleurs que dans le Royaume Uni; à moins que ces additions originales ne soient d'une étendue pour le moins égale à celle de la partie de l'ouvrage publiée originairement dans le Royaume Uni, auquel cas l'ouvrage ne serait soumis qu'aux droits de quinze shillings par quintal Anglais.

ARTICLE XI.

Pour faciliter l'exécution de la présente Convention, les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes s'engagent à se communiquer mutuellement les lois et réglemens qui pourront être ultérieurement établis dans les états respectifs, à l'égard des droits d'auteurs, pour les ouvrages et productions protégés par les stipulations de la présente Convention.

ARTICLE XII.

Les stipulations de la présente Convention ne pourront, en aucune manière, porter atteinte au droit que chacune des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes se réserve expressément de surveiller ou de défendre, au moyen de mesures législatives, ou de police intérieure, la vente, la circulation, la représentation, et l'exposition de tout ouvrage ou de toute production, à l'égard desquels l'un ou l'autre pays jugerait convenable d'exercer ce droit.

ARTICLE XIII.

Rien dans cette Convention ne sera considéré comme portant atteinte au droit de l'une ou de l'autre des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes de prohiber l'importation dans ses propres états des livres qui, d'après ses lois intérieures ou des stipulations souscrites avec d'autres Puissances, sont ou seraient déclarés être des contrefaçons, ou des violations du droit d'auteur.

ARTICLE XIV.

Her Britannic Majesty engages to recommend to Parliament to pass an Act to enable her to carry into execution such of the arrangements contained in the present Convention as require the sanction of an Act of the Legislature. When such an Act shall have been passed, the Convention shall come into operation from and after a day to be then fixed upon by the two High Contracting Parties. Due notice shall be given beforehand in each country, by the Government of that country, of the day which may be so fixed upon; and the stipulations of the Convention shall apply only to works or articles published after that day.

The Convention shall continue in force for ten years from the day on which it may come into operation; and if neither Party shall, twelve months before the expiration of the said period of ten years, give notice of its intention to terminate its operation, the Convention shall continue in force for a year longer, and so on from year to year, until the expiration of a year's notice from either Party for its termination.

The High Contracting Parties, however, reserve to themselves the power of making by common consent, in this Convention, any modifications which may not be inconsistent with its spirit and principles, and which experience of its working may show to be desirable.

ARTICLE XV.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Paris as soon as may be within three months from the date of signature.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto their respective seals.

Done at Paris, the third day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

(L.S.)

(L.S.)

NORMANBY.

TURGOT.

ARTICLE XIV.

Sa Majesté Britannique s'engage à recommander au Parlement d'adopter une loi qui l'autorise à mettre en vigueur celles des dispositions de la présente Convention qui ont besoin d'être sanctionnées par un Acte législatif. Lorsque cette loi aura été adoptée, la Convention sera mise à exécution à partir d'un jour qui sera alors fixé par les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes. Dans chaque pays, le Gouvernement fera dûment connaître d'avance le jour ainsi convenu; et les stipulations de la Convention ne seront applicables qu'aux œuvres et articles publiés après cette date.

La présente Convention restera en vigueur pendant dix années à partir du jour où elle pourra être mise en vigueur; et dans le cas où aucune des deux Parties n'aurait pas signifié, douze mois avant l'expiration de la dite période de dix années, son intention d'en faire cesser les effets, la Convention continuerait à rester en vigueur encore une année; et ainsi de suite d'année en année, jusqu'à l'expiration d'une année à partir du jour où l'une ou l'autre des Parties l'aura dénoncée.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes se réservent cependant la faculté d'apporter à la présente Convention, d'un commun accord, toute modification qui ne serait pas incompatible avec l'esprit et les principes qui en sont la base, et dont l'expérience aurait démontré l'opportunité.

ARTICLE XV.

La présente Convention sera ratifiée, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Paris dans le délai de trois mois à partir du jour de la signature, ou plus tôt, si faire se peut.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signée, et y ont apposé leurs cachets respectifs.

Fait à Paris, le troisième jour du mois de Novembre, de l'an de grâce mil huit cent cinquante-un.

*Procès-Verbal of the exchange of
Ratifications.*

THE Undersigned having met together in order, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the President of the French Republic, to proceed to the exchange of the respective Ratifications of the Convention between Great Britain and France, signed at Paris on the 3rd of November last, for the mutual protection, in the two countries, of copyright in works of literature and of art; the respective instruments of ratification were produced, and after having been carefully compared and found to be exactly conformable to each other, were exchanged in the usual form.

1. Notwithstanding, however, that by the terms of Article XIV, it is stipulated that none of the arrangements of the Convention shall come into operation until after the time when such of those arrangements as require to be confirmed in Great Britain by an Act of the Legislature, shall have been so sanctioned; it was mutually agreed, that such of those arrangements as do not require that sanction, and as the present state of the Law enables the British Crown to carry at once into execution, shall on either side receive their full and entire effect as soon as possible.

2. It was also agreed, that the stipulations contained in Article V, which forbid the republication in either of the two countries, of articles from newspapers or periodicals published in the other, the authors of which shall have notified in the newspaper or periodical in which such articles have appeared, that they forbid the republication thereof,—shall not be applicable to articles of political discussion.

The preceding interpretations and explanations shall have the same force and validity as if they had been inserted in the Convention itself.

In witness whereof the Undersigned have signed the present *procès-verbal*, in duplicate, at Paris, the eighth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

(L.S.)

(L.S.)

*Procès-Verbal de l'échange des
Ratifications.*

LES Soussignés s'étant réunis pour procéder, au nom de Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et du Président de la République Française, à l'échange des Ratifications réciproques de la Convention signée à Paris le 3 Novembre dernier, entre la Grande Bretagne et la France, dans le but de garantir mutuellement, dans les deux pays, la propriété des œuvres de littérature et d'art; les instruments respectifs de ratification ont été produits; et après avoir été soigneusement collationnés et trouvés exactement conformes l'un à l'autre, l'échange en a été opéré dans les formes usitées.

Toutefois, 1°. Nonobstant les termes de l'Article XIV, stipulant que la Convention ne sera exécutoire en aucune de ses dispositions qu'à partir du jour où celles qui ont besoin d'être validées dans la Grande Bretagne par un Acte législatif, auront reçu cette sanction; il a été convenu d'un commun accord, que celles des dispositions qui ne sont point de nature à y être soumises, et que l'état actuel de la Législation autorise dès à présent la Couronne Britannique à valider, auront le plus tôt possible leur plein et entier effet de part et d'autre.

2°. Il a été également convenu, que les dispositions contenues dans l'Article V, lesquelles interdisent la reproduction dans l'un des deux pays des articles de journaux ou de recueils périodiques publiés dans l'autre, et dont les auteurs auraient déclaré dans le journal ou recueil même où ils les auront fait paraître, qu'ils en interdisent la reproduction,—ne seront pas applicables aux articles de discussion politique.

Les précédentes interprétations et explications auront la même force et valeur que si elles étaient insérées dans le texte même de la Convention.

En foi de quoi les Soussignés ont signé le présent *procès-verbal* en double copie, à Paris, le huitième jour de Janvier, de l'an de Grâce mil huit cent cinquante-deux.

NORMANBY.

TURGOT.

International Copyright.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the French Republic, for the establishment of International Copyright.

Signed at Paris, November 3, 1851.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1852.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

GENERAL POST OFFICE.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES

TO THOSE AGREED UPON BETWEEN THE

POST OFFICE OF GREAT BRITAIN

AND THE

POST OFFICE OF FRANCE,

FOR CARRYING INTO EXECUTION

THE CONVENTION OF 3d APRIL 1843.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1852.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES

To those agreed upon between the Post Office of GREAT BRITAIN and the
Post Office of FRANCE, for carrying into execution the Convention of
3d April 1843.

In pursuance of the power granted by Articles 49 and 87 of the Convention of April 3d, 1843, between Great Britain and France, to the two Post Offices, to settle the matters of detail which are to be arranged by mutual consent for ensuring the execution of the said Convention,

The Undersigned, duly authorized for that purpose by their respective offices, have agreed upon the following Articles :—

En vertu de la faculté conféré par les Articles 49 et 87 de la Convention du 3 Avril 1843, entre la Grande Bretagne et la France, aux Offices des Postes des deux pays, d'arrêter de concert les mesures d'ordre et de détail qui doivent procurer l'exécution de cette Convention,

Les Soussignés, dûment autorisés à cet effet par leurs offices respectifs, sont convenus des Articles suivants :

ARTICLE 1.

The reciprocal delivery between the two Post Offices of Great Britain and France of the letters coming from or addressed to those countries the correspondence of which passes through France, shall take place at the prices and on the conditions mentioned in Table A. annexed to the present Articles.

L'échange entre les deux Offices des Postes de la Grande Bretagne et de France des lettres originaires ou à destination des pays auxquels la France sert d'intermédiaire, aura lieu aux prix et conditions indiqués dans le Tableau A. annexé aux presents Articles.

ARTICLE 2.

Those regulations are abrogated which are contained, viz :—

1. In the Articles 41, 43, 44, 45, 46, 48, 50, and 51 of the Convention of April 3d, 1843.

2. In the Articles 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, and 47 of the Articles agreed upon between the Offices of Great Britain and France, and signed at London the 1st of May 1843.

3. In the Articles 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15, of the Articles agreed upon between the two Offices, and signed at Paris the 28th of March 1844, and at London the 31st of the same month.

4. In the Articles 9 and 10 of the Articles agreed upon between the two Offices, and signed at Paris the 22d of February 1845, and at London the 26th of the same month.

5. In the Articles 5 and 6 of the Articles agreed upon between the two Offices, and signed at Paris the 25th of March 1846, and at London the 30th of the same month.

6. In the Articles agreed upon between the two Offices, and signed at Paris the 11th of May 1846, and at London the 14th of the same month.

Sont abrogées les dispositions contenues, savoir,—

1°. Dans les Articles 41, 43, 44, 45, 46, 48, 50, et 51 de la Convention du 3 Avril 1843.

2°. Dans les Articles 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, et 47 des Articles convenus entre les Offices de la Grande Bretagne et de France, et signés à Londres le 1 Mai 1843.

3°. Dans les Articles 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, et 15 des Articles convenus entre les deux Offices, et signés à Paris le 28 Mars 1844, et à Londres le 31 du même mois.

4°. Dans les Articles 9 et 10 des Articles convenus entre les deux Offices, et signé à Paris le 22 Février 1845, et à Londres le 26 du même mois.

5°. Dans les Articles 5 et 6 des Articles convenus entre les deux Offices, et signés à Paris le 25 Mars 1846, et à Londres le 30 du même mois.

6°. Dans les Articles convenus entre les deux Offices, et signés à Paris le 11 de Mai 1846, et à Londres le 14 du même mois.

ARTICLE 3.

The forms of letter bills and acknowledgments of receipt for the use of the respective offices of exchange, shall be made according to the forms B and C annexed to the present Articles.

Les feuilles d'avis et accusés de réception dont devront faire usage les bureaux d'échange respectifs seront conformes aux modèles B et C annexés aux presents Articles.

ARTICLE 4.

The present Articles shall be considered as additional to those agreed upon between the two Offices for carrying into execution the Convention of April 3d, 1843, signed at London the 1st of May following, and shall come into operation on the 1st day of April 1852.

Done in duplicate, and signed at Paris the 25th day of March 1852, and at London the 29th of the same month.

(Signed) W. L. MABERLY,
Secretary of the General Post Office
of the United Kingdom.

Approved,
(Signed) HARDWICKE,
Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom.

Les presents Articles seront considérés comme additionnels aux Articles d'exécution de la Convention du 3 Avril 1843, signés à Londres le 1 Mai suivant, et seront mis à exécution le premier Avril 1852.

Fait en double original, et signé à Paris le 25^{me} jour du mois de Mars 1852, et à Londres le 29^{me} jour du même mois.

L'Administrateur des Postes de France,
(Signé) PIRON.

Approuvé.
Le Conseiller d'Etat,
Directeur général des Postes de France,
(Signé) E. J. THAYER.

A.

TABLE showing the RATE OF POSTAGE to be paid by the BRITISH OFFICE to the OFFICE of FRANCE, for ordinary Letters forwarded from Countries the Correspondence of which shall be transmitted through France, destined for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the British Colonies and Possessions, and vice versa.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.	LETTERS delivered by the OFFICE of FRANCE to the BRITISH OFFICE.			LETTERS delivered by the BRITISH OFFICE to the OFFICE of FRANCE.		
	Regulation as to Payment in advance.	To what Limit.	Rate of Postage to be paid by the British Office to the Office of France for unpaid Letters (per 30 grammes).	Regulation as to Payment in advance.	To what Limit.	Rate of Postage to be paid by the British Office to the Office of France for Letters paid as far as any limit beyond the frontier at which they enter France (per 30 grammes).
Spain, Portugal, and Gibraltar	Compulsory	Point of entering France -	Two francs - - -	Compulsory	Point of leaving France	Two francs.
Grand Duchies of Luxembourg and of Baden, Kingdoms of the Netherlands, Prussia, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg, Principalities of Hohen-zollern, Birkenfeld, Hesse Homburg, Lippe, Schwartzburg-Rudolstadt, Reuss, Duchies of Anhalt, Nassau, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and Saxe-Meiningen-Hildburg-Hausen, Hesse (Electoral), Hesse-Darmstadt, Saxe Weimar-Eisenach, Free Cities of Francfort on the Maine, Hamburgh, Bremen, and Lubeck, and Switzerland -	Optional -	Destination -	Two francs forty centimes -	Optional -	Destination -	Two francs forty centimes.
Sardinian States -	Optional -	Destination -	Three francs twenty-five centimes -	Optional -	Destination -	Three francs twenty-five centimes.
Grand Duchy of Tuscany -	Optional -	Destination -	Four francs forty centimes -	Optional -	Destination -	Four francs forty centimes.
Duchies of Parma and Modena { via Sardinia - - - - - }	Compulsory	Point of entering Sardinia	Four francs forty centimes -	Payment in advance is not allowed.	-	-
Papal States - - - - - { via Austria - - - - - }	Compulsory	Point of entering Austria	Four francs forty centimes -	Compulsory	Point of leaving Austria	Four francs forty centimes.
- - - - - { by French Mediterranean Packets - - - - - }	Compulsory	Civita Vecchia - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes -	Compulsory	Civita Vecchia - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes.
- - - - - { via Sardinia - - - - - }	Compulsory	Point of entering Sardinia	Four francs forty centimes -	Payment in advance is not allowed.	-	-
Kingdom of the Two Sicilies - - - - - { by French Mediterranean Packets - - - - - }	Compulsory	Naples - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes -	Compulsory	Calais - - - - -	-
- - - - - { via Sardinia - - - - - }	Optional -	Point of entering Sardinia	Four francs forty centimes -	Payment in advance is not allowed.	-	-
Kingdom of Greece - - - - - { by French Mediterranean Packets - - - - - }	Compulsory	Destination - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes -	Optional -	Destination - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes.
- - - - - { via Austria - - - - - }	Compulsory	Trieste - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes -	Compulsory	Trieste - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes.
Ionian Islands, via Austria - - - - -	Compulsory	Trieste - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes -	Compulsory	Trieste - - - - -	Four francs forty centimes.
Countries beyond Sea - - - - -	Compulsory	Port of embarkation -	Four francs forty centimes -	Compulsory	Port of disembarkation -	Four francs forty centimes.
Kingdoms of Hanover and Saxony, Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Duchy of Brunswick, Grand Duchy of Oldenburg (the Principality of Birkenfeld excepted), Austrian Provinces, Servia, Poland, and Russia -	Optional -	Destination -	Four francs forty centimes -	Optional -	Destination -	Four francs forty centimes.
Moldavia, Wallachia, and Turkey in Europe (via Austria) -	Optional -	Destination -	Six francs eighty centimes -	Optional -	Destination -	Six francs eighty centimes.

PAYS ÉTRANGERS D'ORIGINE ou de destination.

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LONDON.

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

THE GUANO ISLANDS

OF

LOBOS DE TIERRA & LOBOS DE FUERA.

1833—1852.

*Presented to the House of Commons, by Command of Her Majesty, in
pursuance of their Address of May 14, 1852.*

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“ A Copy of Correspondence between the Merchants of Liverpool and the Foreign Office, respecting the newly-discovered Guano Islands of Lobos Afuera and Lobos de Tierra.”

No. 1.

Mr. Belford Wilson to Mr. Bidwell.—(Received February 26.)

(Extract.)

Lima, September 23, 1833.

THE Government has issued a decree prohibiting foreign vessels fishing along the coast and on the islands of Peru.

For many years, no British vessel has been engaged in this fishery, but great abuses have been committed by American vessels, which approach them for the purpose of killing whales and seals ; not only have they destroyed seals of all sexes and ages at improper periods, so as to render their breed very scarce, but, under the pretext of fishing, have carried on a very extensive smuggling trade.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Decree prohibiting foreign vessels from fishing on the coasts and islands of Peru.

(Translation.)

THE Citizen José Branlio del Camporedondo, Vice-President of the Senate, charged with the Executive Power of the Republic,

Considering :

1. That the fishing on the coasts and islands of the Republic ought to belong exclusively to the citizens of Peru ;

2. That at present it is carried on by some foreign vessels, invading the property, and depriving by force the natives of the country who are employed in it ;

Decrees:

Art. 1. The fishing of seals and amphibious animals on the shores and islands of Peru is absolutely prohibited to foreigners.

2. The captains of foreign vessels who evade this order shall be considered as smugglers.

3. The captains of the port shall grant permission to the citizens of Peru for this object, with the knowledge of the superior authority of the department, Commandant-General of Marine, and Chiefs of the custom-houses on the coast.

4. Whatever national vessel that is met in the neighbourhood of the coast and islands, without the legal documents which grant her the permission, may be detained on suspicion in any port of the Republic, without having the right of reclaiming for it damages and prejudices.

The Under Secretary of State of the Department of Finance will see this Decree carried into force, and that it is printed and published.

Given at the Government House in Lima, this 6th of September, 1833.

(Signed) JOSE BRANLIO DEL CAMPOREDONDO.

By order of his Excellency,

(Signed) JOSE DE MANDIBURU.

No. 2.

Mr. Belford Wilson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 13.)

My Lord,

Lima, April 1, 1834.

IN my despatch of the 23rd of September last, I inclosed to your Lordship a decree of the Peruvian Government, prohibiting foreign vessels from fishing on the coasts and islands of Peru.

On the 28th of last month I received a despatch from the Peruvian Minister of Foreign Affairs, complaining that the British schooner "Campeadora" had, in violation of this decree, been employed in killing seals on the desert Islands of Lobos, and of other irregularities.

The farthest of these islands are distant about ten leagues from the shore.

In reply to the Peruvian Minister I pointed out the very limited means I possessed of preventing the inobservance of the laws of the country by any of His Majesty's subjects, however desirous I might be of doing so; and called his attention to a circumstance connected with the case of the "Campeadora," concerning which he appeared to be misinformed.

I never myself entertained any doubt as to the right of Peru to issue the decree in question, on the ground that these islands, and all others immediately adjacent to the coast of Peru, had invariably been considered as part of the territory of the Vice-Royalty, and subsequently of the Republic of Peru; indeed many of them are private property, and extremely valuable on account of the deposit of birds which cover them, and which, being used for manure, employs several vessels in its conveyance to various parts of the coasts.

Lord James Townshend, the Commander of His Majesty's Naval Forces in the Pacific, takes a different view of the question; and he himself told me that he considered that His Majesty's subjects had a positive right of fishery on all these islands, unless they should be actually occupied by some Peruvian authority, or protected by the constant presence of some Peruvian man-of-war to warn off vessels; and he moreover argues that, were it not that some Peruvian settlers or convicts existed on the Island of San Lorenzo, which actually forms part of the Bay of Callao, and is distant about four miles from the Castles in its nearest point, that that island might also be occupied by any of His Majesty's subjects for the purpose of fishing on it.

Opinions of this nature, however erroneous they appear to me, are readily circulated and believed by others; and coming from so influential a quarter, may perhaps induce British subjects to disregard the prohibitory decree of the Peruvian Government.

I am therefore desirous of being informed whether the right of the Peruvian Government to issue the decree before alluded to can at all be called in question; and whether, in the event of its violation by any British vessel, and thereby incurring the penalties of this decree, she will be entitled to any protection from the Consulate-General.

In my former despatch I stated that instances of British vessels fishing on these islands are of very rare occurrence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BELFORD HINTON WILSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Señor Corbacho to Mr. Belford Wilson.

*Casa del Gobierno en Lima,
a 28 de Marzo de 1834.*

Señor,

LA Comandancia-General de Marina ha dirigido al Ministerio del Despacho, y este al de Relaciones Exteriores, que desempeña el Infrascrito, una parte original del capitan del puerto de Paíta, fecha 21 de Diciembre ultimo, cuyo tenor es como sigue:

"El 7 del que vije ancli en este puerto la goleta Inglesa 'Campeadora,' procedente de las Yslas de Lobos en donde ha estado ejercitada en la pesca, contrariando el supremo decreto 6 de Setiembre ultimo, despues de haber sacado permiso de Señor General Prefecto del Departamento de Lima, para navegar con destino a California. En el momento que recogí sus papeles pase a tierra a tomar providencias para embargarsa, pues se hallaba cargada de cueros de lobos, que habia pescado en nuestras islas; mas luego que salto el capitan á tierra y le anunciaron el riesgo en que se hallaba, mando uno de sus compañeros a ofrecer ochocientos pesos por tal de que no se le embargase; mas habiendose adelantado en embarcarse abordo, antes de llegar mi bote ya armado con el objeto de aprenderla, largaron el chicote de la cadena, y se mariaron inmediatamente, burlandose de los esfuerzos que hacia el bote para tomarla, y siguiendole favorable el viento, desaparecio dejando los papeles en tierra en esta capitania. Loque comunico a vuestra Señoria para su superior intelijencia, y para que se sirva ordenarme el procedimiento que debe observar si este buque volviese a anclar en este bahia."

El Infrascrito tiene el honor de comunicar este suceso al Señor Consul-General de Su Magestad Británica, afin de que se sirva tomarlo en consideracion y acordar las medidas que estime conducentes para que se eviten en lo sucesivo semejantes actos, que refluyen en menos precio de las leyes del pais, y que atacan la respetabilidad de las autoridades publicas.

Con este motivo renueva el Infrascrito, &c.

(Firmato)

J. MA. CORBACHO.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Government House, Lima, March 28, 1834.

THE General of Marine has forwarded to the Minister of that Department, and he to the Office of Foreign Affairs in charge of the Undersigned, an original despatch from the captain of the port of Paita, dated 21st December last, as follows :

"On the 7th instant the English schooner 'Campeadora' anchored in this port, proceeding from the Islands of Lobos, where she has been employed in the fishery, contravening the supreme decree of the 6th September last, after taking out a sailing licence from the Prefect of the Department of Lima, for California. As soon as I had collected his papers, I returned ashore to take measures to embargo the vessel, which was full of seal-skins fished in our islands; but when the captain landed and was informed of the risk he ran, he sent one of his companions to offer 800 dollars to escape seizure; and having got the start of me in going on board again, before my boat which was already armed to take him had got up, he slipped his cable and immediately went out to sea, frustrating the endeavours of the boat to take him; and the wind continuing favourable, he disappeared, leaving his papers on shore in my office. I communicate this to you for your government, and in order that you may indicate to me what steps I must take should this vessel return to anchor in this bay."

The Undersigned has the honour to inform His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General of this occurrence, in order that he may take it into consideration and take the necessary steps to prevent a recurrence for the future of similar acts, which set at defiance the laws of the country and attack the respectability of the public authorities.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

J. MA. CORBACHO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Mr. Belford Wilson to Señor Corbacho.

Sir,

Lima, April 1, 1834.

THE Peruvian Minister will, I am sure, readily credit the sincere desire with which I am animated to prevent by timely warning, advice, and by every means in my power, any of His Majesty's subjects from infringing the laws of Peru, or treating with disrespect the constituted authorities.

The Peruvian Minister, however, cannot be ignorant of my very limited means to effect these objects, and that it cannot be possible for me on all occasions to prevent abuses of this sort, however much I may regret them.

In respect to the proceedings of the British schooner "Campeadora" at the Islands of Lobos, and subsequently at the Port of Paita, to which the Peruvian Minister calls my attention in his despatch of the 28th of last month, I beg to inform him that on the publication of the supreme decree prohibiting in future to foreigners the fishery of seals and whales on the coasts and islands of Peru, that I transmitted a copy of the same to His Majesty's Government, and that as yet I have received no instructions thereon.

From information which has been communicated to me, it appears that the "Campeadora" was not warned to desist from fishing on the Islands of Lobos by any Peruvian vessels of war or by any Peruvian authority, none indeed existing in these desert islands, and which warning is customary in cases where the privilege of fishing has long existed and is suddenly stopped by the Power claiming the exercise of dominion over the fishery.

In cases where the foreign vessel arrives direct from countries where, on account of the unexpected and sudden publication of a decree of prohibition, that decree could not possibly be known at the period of the vessel's departure, a notification of its existence and a warning to the vessel to desist from fishing would necessarily be required to ensure her condemnation in a court of law for its inobservance; but the decree of the Peruvian Government affords no time whatever for its effects to come into operation as regards vessels so circumstanced; the case, however, of the "Campeadora" is different, for the master might have known of the existence of this decree during his stay at Callao; and it was from no generosity whatever or from any considerate feeling, that this vessel escaped from seizure by the Peruvian authorities.

I have been further assured by parties whose evidence I cannot hastily reject, that it was the captain of the port of Paita himself who offered to allow the vessel to proceed to sea unmolested on receiving a bribe of 800 dollars, and not, as he has since alleged, that this sum was offered to him by one of the companions of the master for that purpose. The bribe, however, was refused to be given. The truth of this statement might have been proved had the complaint of the captain of the port of Paita, which is dated the 21st of December, been forwarded to this Consulate-General at an earlier period, instead of allowing three months and three days to elapse previous to any communication on the subject being made, and when in all probability the vessel has returned to England.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BELFORD HINTON WILSON.

No. 3.

Sir George Shee to Mr. Belford Wilson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 30, 1834.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 1st of April last, on the subject of a decree issued by the Peruvian Government, prohibiting foreign vessels from fishing on the coasts and islands of Peru, I am

directed by Viscount Palmerston to acquaint you that, from the statement contained in your despatch, there seems no reason to doubt that as the islands in question are and have always been considered to be part of the territory of Peru, it would therefore appear that the Peruvian Government have a right to prohibit foreign vessels from fishing upon the coasts immediately adjoining to those islands, as well as upon the coasts of Peru itself, there being no evidence in the papers which you have transmitted, of any right of fishing acquired by long and uninterrupted usage.

You will not, however, object to give protection and assistance to such British vessels as may, through ignorance of the decree, or through inadvertence, have subjected themselves to the penalties thereof.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. SHEE.

No. 4.

Mr. Belford Wilson to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 23, 1842.)

(Extract.)

Callao, December 22, 1841.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting, herewith, a copy and translation of a decree issued by the Government of Peru, under date of the 8th instant, establishing a monopoly of Peruvian guano in favour of the State, in conjunction with Don Francisco Quiros and Don Achilles Allier.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Decree of December 8, 1841, establishing Monopoly of Peruvian Guano.

EN consideracion á que el contrato celebrado con Don Francisco Quiros, sobre extraccion del huano de las islas, ha sido declarado sin efecto por decreto de 27 de Noviembre último, por las causuales que se indicaron, á consecuencia de las representaciones del Consejo de Estado, resolucion de la Corte Suprema, y avenimiento del mismo Quiros; y á que habiendo demandado el interés del Erario que se solicitasen negociantes para que tomasen el huano en comision ó venta, ó de otro modo que fuese útil, segun los avisos oficiales é invitaciones que se han hecho por medio de los periódicos, el resultado ha sido que las propuestas presentadas no sean admisibles, por las pocas ventajas que de ellas reportaria el Tesoro Nacional, como se ve en las que se han agregado á éste expediente: el Gobierno tiene á bien entrar en contrato con Don Francisco Quiros y Don Aquiles Allier, en los términos y bajo las condiciones siguientes:

1. Declarado sin efecto alguno el contrato celebrado con el referido Quiros, éste no tiene derecho á hacer reclamo sobre la cantidad de cuarenta mil pesos que entregó en dinero y credits de la casa de moneda, con arreglo á la escritura de 29 de Diciembre de 1840, en atencion á que han cedido en su favor los aprovechamientos obtenidos durante el año corrido del mencionado contrato.

2. Desde la fecha el privilegio esclusivo de esportar huano á Europa, se disfrutará por el Estado en sociedad con Quiros y Allier, y por el término de cinco años, distribuyéndose las utilidades líquidas en ésta forma: en el primer año, que será forzoso para la compañía, sesenta y cuatro por ciento al Estado, y treinta y seis por ciento á los mencionados; y en los cuatro siguientes, voluntarios, una tercia parte de las utilidades líquidas para éstos, y las dos restantes para el Estado.

3. En consecuencia del Artículo precedente entran en la sociedad los cargamentos de huano que se esporten en los buques que actualmente se hallan en el Callao, con destino á cargar el huano, asi como los cargamentos que se estraigan en los demas buques que vengán con éste mismo objeto.

4. Quiros y su compañero son obligados á dar al Gobierno cuantos datos y conocimientos se les exijan sobre las contratas y ventas de huano, fletamento de buques, consignaciones y gastos de cualquiera especie, á fin de que el Gobierno pueda formar idea exacta del negocio.

5. Todo buque que cargue huano queda sujeto á tomar su despacho final en la aduana del Callao, y ninguna otra podrá en caso alguno librar dichos despachos.

6. La extraccion del huano solo es permitida por ahora de la Isla del Norte de las de Chincha, y los buques que vayan allí á cargar, deberán sacar antes permiso de Quiros y su compañero, quienes quedan obligados á dar cuenta inmediatamente al Ministerio del Despacho de dicha licencia, acompañando el duplicado de la contrata celebrada con el capitán del buque, y cuando salga, remitir uno de los conocimientos que firme el capitán.

7. El Gobierno puede, á costa de la compañía y como lo crea conveniente, enviar personas que inspeccionen el trabajo en el lugar donde se hace la explotacion del huano, é impedir el contrabando en las islas ú otros puntos donde se produce.

8. Todos los útiles, herramientas, embarcaciones y demas artículos que al presente sirven como necesarios para la explotacion del huano, y de los que deberán presentar inventario, Quiros y su compañero quedan desde la fecha por comun de la sociedad, sin que por esto puedan pedir cantidad alguna, y al fin del contrato cederan en beneficio del Estado.

9. Son obligados Quiros y su compañero á hacer traer al Callao dentro de doce meses dos embarcaciones de vapor de mas de cuatrocientas toneladas cada una, y del poder mas conveniente, para precaver con ellas la substraccion clandestina del huano; entendiéndose que la construccion de dichos buques ha de ser a proposito para el servicio de guerra, y que han de traer un cañon jiratorio del calibre de treinta y seis, y las carronadas precisas: el valor de éstos buques se satisfará de los fondos de la sociedad, y concluida, quedarán en beneficio del Estado; mas si dicha sociedad no pasase del primer año, entonces el valor total de los buques saldrá de solo la parte del Estado.

10. Los encargados, agentes ó comisionados para la venta del huano pueden ser amovibles, segun lo estimare conveniente el Gobierno, acordándolo con Quiros, mas por ahora deben existir los que actualmente han servido en la negociacion del huano, mientras no hubiese motivo para relevarlos.

11. Quiros y su compañero quedan obligados á pasar al Ministerio del Despacho la correspondencia que dirijan á los encargados y agentes en Europa, dándoles instrucciones para la venta del huano, y avisar el resultado que tenga cada cargamento, y presentar tambien la correspondencia orijinal que de ellos reciban.

12. En vista de los documentos á que se contrae el Artículo anterior, se hará anualmente el balance y liquidacion de las cuentas de la sociedad, para que el Gobierno pueda disponer de las utilidades que resulten en su favor.

13. Quedan obligados Quiros y su compañero á entregar en la tesoreria jeneral en el término de cuatro dias por cuenta de dichas utilidades, la cantidad de ochenta y siete mil pesos, y cincuenta mil el dia ocho de cada uno de los cuatro meses siguientes al presente. El Gobierno en compensacion á éste adelanto concede á Quiros y Allier el permiso de cargar con huano de cuenta de estos por una sola vez, la fragata Rosa ó Escandinavia, que en la actualidad se halla en el puerto del Callao, y va á nacionalizarse por solo Quiros.

14. No pudiendo extraerse el huano de otro punto mas que de la isla del norte de las de Chincha, mientras se hace el reconocimiento de todos los lugares donde se encuentre ésta sustancia, segun el acuerdo del Consejo de Estado de 24 de Noviembre último, y sus referentes, para examinar si ella es ó no consumible, y en que tiempo, cuya vista de ojos, mensura y cálculo apróximado deberá quedar concluido dentro de un año; es condicion, que si resulta de dicho exámen, que el huano es defectible en poco tiempo, el presente contrato no podrá estenderse á mas que á la esportacion de veinte mil toneladas.

15. La extraccion del huano de cualquiera punto donde se encuentre es libre, siendo con destino á la agricultura del país, y seguirá sin alteracion alguna como hasta el presente; mas siempre que se descubra que los buques hacen éste comercio, trasbordan el huano, ó lo conducen al extranjero, entónces caeran en comiso, y se sujetarán á los demas penas establecidas contra los defraudadores de las rentas nacionales.

16. Todas las disputas ó incidentes que ocurran sobre el presente contrato, de cualquier modo que procedan, ó sean, quedan sujetas á la decision de la Corte Suprema, segun su atribucion constitucional, y sus fallos seran rigurosa y estrictamente observados.

17. De las utilidades que de ésta negociacion resulten en favor del Estado, el Gobierno determinará la parte que deba aplicarse á la deuda extranjera, haciendo antes con sus acreedores los arreglos necesarios para verificar el pago; sin que en esto Quiros ni Allier tengan que intervenir, á menos que reciban éste encargo del Gobierno.

18. Don Francisco Quiros y Don Aquiles Allier se obligan con sus bienes habidos y por haber, hipotecándolos espresamente, al cumplimiento de éste contrato, y el Estado en razon de los adelantos que recibe de aquellos y de los gastos que hacen en la exportacion del huano, les hipoteca asi mismo el que existe en la isla de donde se hace dicha esportacion.

Rejístrese en el tribunal mayor de cuentas, pase á la tesoreria jeneral, para que disponga el otorgamiento de la respectiva escritura, y fecho vuelva el espediente al Ministerio del Despacho. Rubrica de S. E.

CANO.

(Translation.)

IN consideration that the contract concluded with Don Francisco Quiros for the extraction of guano from the islands has been declared without effect by the Decree of the 27th of November last, for the reasons therein given, and consequent upon the report of the Council of State, the resolution of the Supreme Court, and acquiescence of the said Quiros; and it having been required by the interests of the Treasury that merchants should be solicited to take the guano on commission or sale, or in any other manner that might be useful according to the official notices and invitations which have been made through the channel of the public journals; and the result has been, that the proposals presented have not been admissible on account of the advantages which the National Treasury would have obtained therefrom, as may be seen in those attached to this report; the Government have deemed it proper to enter into a contract with Don Francisco Quiros and Don Achilles Allier, on the following terms and conditions:

1. The contract concluded with the said Quiros being null and void, he has no right to make a claim for the sum of 40,000 dollars which he paid in money and credits on the Mint, according to the contract of the 29th of December, 1840, in consideration of having ceded in his favour the profit obtained during the past year of the said contract.

2. From this date, for a period of five years, the exclusive privilege of exporting guano to Europe shall be enjoyed by the State in conjunction with Quiros and Allier, the net profits thereof to be distributed as follows:—In the first year, which will be binding on the Company, 64 per cent. to the State, and 36 per cent. to the before mentioned; and in the four following years, which shall be voluntary, one-third part of the net profit for these, and the two-thirds remaining for the State.

3. In consequence of the preceding Article, the cargoes of guano which are exported in the vessels that are at present in Callao for the purpose of loading guano, shall belong to the Company, as well as the cargoes which may be shipped in the other vessels which shall come for this same object.

4. Quiros and Company are obliged to give to the Government all the data and information which is required of them respecting the contracts and sale of guano, freight of vessels, consignments and expenses of any kind, in order that the Government may form an exact idea of the business.

5. All vessels that load guano must take their first licence in the custom-house of Callao, and no other custom-house can in any case issue such licence.

6. The extraction of guano is only at present permitted from the island to the north of those of Chincha, and the vessels that go there to load must first obtain permission from Quiros or his partner, who are obliged to give an immediate account to the Ministry of said licence, accompanying a duplicate of the contract concluded with the captain of the vessel; and on her sailing they must transmit one of the bills of lading signed by the captain.

7. The Government can, at the cost of the Company and as it may deem fit, send persons to inspect the work in the place where the extraction of guano

is made, and to impede the contraband with islands or other points where it is produced.

8. All the implements, tools, vessels, and other articles which at present seem necessary for the extraction of guano, and of which an inventory shall be presented by Quiros and his partner, shall from this date become the property of the Company, without requiring any payment for the same, and on the expiration of the contract this will be ceded for the benefit of the State.

9. Quiros and his partner must place in Callao, within twelve months, two steam-boats of upwards of 400 tons each, and with sufficient horse-power, to be employed in the prevention of the contraband of guano; on the understanding that the said vessels are to be so constructed as to render them efficient war-vessels, and one to carry a 36-pounder gun and the necessary number of carronades; the cost of these vessels shall be paid for with the funds of the Company, and when concluded, remain for the benefit of the State. But if said Company does not continue longer than the first year, the total value of the vessels shall be deducted from the part of the profits of the monopoly belonging to the State.

10. The consignees' agents in commission for the sale of guano may be removed as the Government, in concurrence with Quiros, may deem fit; but at present those who have actually served in the speculation of guano may remain until there shall be a motive for superseding them.

11. Quiros and his partner are obliged to transmit to the Ministry the correspondence which is addressed to the consignees and agents in Europe, giving them instructions for the sale of guano, and notify the result of each cargo, and also present the original correspondence which may be received from them.

12. On receiving the document stated in the preceding Articles, a balance and liquidation of the account of the Company shall be made annually, so that the Government may dispose of the profit which may result in its favour.

13. Quiros and his partner shall deliver into the Treasury within the period of four months on account of said profit, the sum of 87,000 dollars and 50,000 dollars on each of the four months following the present; the Government in compensation of this advance concedes to Quiros and Allier the permission to load on their account for once only the ship "Rosa," or "Scandinavia," which is at present in the port of Callao, and is about to be nationalized as Quiros' property.

14. It not being allowed to abstract guano from any other port than the island to the north of those of Chincha, until the survey of all the places where this substance is found, in conformity with the opinion of the Council of State of 24th of November last, as well as to the other reports therein referred to, so as to ascertain if it is or not consumable, and in what time, the sight of which measure and approximate calculation ought to be concluded within the year, it is a condition that if it results from said examination that the guano may be deficient in a short time, the present contract cannot be extended to more than the exportation of 20,000 tons.

15. The extraction of guano from any point where it may be found is free, provided it be for the use of the agriculture of the country, and shall continue so without any alteration, as at present; but whenever it may be discovered that vessels which carry on this trade transship the guano and carry it to foreign parts, they shall be confiscated, and shall be subjected to other penalties established against the defrauders of the national revenue.

16. All the disputes or incidents which may occur respecting the present contract, in whatever manner they proceed, are to be subject to the decision of the Supreme Court, in conformity with its constituent attribution, and their decision shall be rigorously and strictly observed.

17. Out of the profits of this negotiation which results in favour of the State, the Government will determine the part which ought to be applied to the foreign debt, previously making with its creditors the necessary arrangements, to verify the payment, without in this Quiros or Allier having any intervention therein, unless they shall receive this charge from the Government.

18. Don Francisco Quiros and Don Achilles Allier bind themselves with the property they have, expressly mortgaging it for the fulfilment of the contract; and the State by reason of the advance which they receive from them, and on

the expense incurred in the exportation of guano, mortgage also what remains on the island where shipments are made.

Register it in the Audit Office ; let it pass to the general Treasury, that it may order the issue of the respective deed, and on its being done return the document to the Ministry.

Rubric of his Excellency.
(Signed) CANO.

No. 5.

Vice-Consul Sealy to the Earl of Aberdeen.—(Received August 12.)

My Lord,

Lima, March 28, 1842.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a decree which has been issued by the Government of Peru, under date of the 21st instant, directing the adoption of sundry measures for the prevention of the contraband of guano, and establishing certain regulations relative to the extraction and sale of that article for home (Peruvian) consumption.

And I beg to call your Lordship's attention to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 20th, and 21st Articles of the before-cited decree, translations of which are herein inclosed.

The untranslated Articles merely contain custom-house and port regulations exclusively referring to national vessels.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. T. SEALY.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Decree of March 21, 1842, respecting Guano.

Ministerio de Hacienda.

El ciudadano Manuel Menendez, Presidente del Consejo de Estado, encargado del Poder Ejecutivo de la Republica ;

SIENDO urgente dictar algunas medidas que eviten el contrabando que puede hacerse del huano en perjuicio de los intereses del Estado, y al mismo tiempo reglamentar la extraccion y venta de aquella sustancia de que indispensablemente necesita la agricultura del pais ; de acuerdo con el Consejo de Estado, en virtud de la atribucion 26 del Artículo 87 de la Constitucion ;

Decreto :

Art. 1. Todo buque nacional que haga actualmente el comercio de huano para la agricultura del pais, se inscribirá de nuevo en el término de tres meses en la matricula del puerto á que pertenezca, y el capitan de este dará el correspondiente aviso á la Comandancia-Jeneral de Marina. En adelante ningun buque podrá ocuparse en este tráfico sin dicha formalidad.

2. El buque nacional que no se matricule en el término de los tres meses y se ocupe despues en trasportar huano, caerá en comiso.

3. Por ahora y mientras se hace el reconocimiento mandado practicar, la isla situada al norte de Chincha y el Pabellon de Pica son los únicos puntos de donde puede extrarse huano por los buques nacionales ; y los que lo extraigan de otros puntos ó islas de la costa, que no sea la isla situado al norte de Chincha, ó el Pabellon de Pica, caerá en comiso.

4. Todo propietario ó capitán de buque nacional que quiera ir á cargar huano á la isla del norte de Chíncha, se presentará en papel común al teniente administrador de la aduana de Pisco para que le espida la correspondiente licencia, la que se le otorgará sin costo alguno; pero con la condicion de que despues de haber cargado deberá volver al mismo puerto, á tomar su despacho final.

5. Los buques nacionales que vayan á cargar huano al Pabellon de Pica, sacarán su licencia del administrador de la aduana de Islay, si el huano que van á extraer fuese para el consumo del departamento de Arequipa, y si para el de Moquegua, del administrador de la aduana de Arica, debiendo en el primer caso los capitanes recibir su despacho final en Islay, y en el segundo en Arica, si conducen el huano para descargarlo en algun puerto menor ó caleta habilitada en dichos departamentos.

6. Luego que llegue el buque al puerto para donde se le otorga la licencia, la presentará el capitán al administrador ó teniente administrador, quien con vista de la patente de navegacion, anotará en el reverso de dicha licencia, en letras y de ninguna manera en guarismos, la fecha de la salida del buque, el número de fanegas ó toneladas de que se componga el cargamento, y el lugar de su destino. Las licencias se numerarán y cortarán del libro que se formará al intento, cuyas fójas se rubricarán por el Ministro del Despacho. En el recorte de este libro, se anotarán, así como en la licencia, en letras y no en guarismos, el número de esta, el de las fanegas ó toneladas de que se componga el cargamento, el lugar de su destino, y la fecha de la salida del buque. El libro debe remitirse al Ministerio del Despacho, luego que se concluya, para que lo mande archivar en el tribunal mayor cuentas.

7. Los administradores de las aduanas de Arica, Islay, y Pisco, remitirán mensual y directamente al Ministerio de Hacienda, razon circunstanciada de las licencias que otorgaren para que se tome de ellas la correspondiente en el susodicho tribunal.

8. Al llegar cada capitán al punto de su destino, entregará al administrador, teniente administrador, ó receptor de aduana, la licencia de que habla el Artículo 4, y despues de que se concluya la descarga, examinará el número de fanegas ó toneladas que haya traído el buque, reservará la licencia en su poder, y dará al capitán una torna guía conforme al modelo que se le remitirá, la que deberá presentar al administrador de la aduana del punto á donde fuere á tomar nueva carga, sin cuyo requisito no podrá recibirla, y en caso contrario quedará responsable á pagar el valor del cargamento, cuya descarga no acreditáre haber verificado con la referida torna guía en el punto á que estaba destinado.

9. Todo capitán ó propietario de buque que se presente para sacar nueva licencia, entregará en ese acto al administrador de la aduana la torna guía de que habla el Artículo 8, so pena de caer el buque en comiso y ser juzgado el capitán como defraudador de la propiedad nacional.

10. En caso que el capitán ó propietario del buque no sacáre, dentro del perentorio término de dos meses, nueva licencia para cargar, remitirá en el primer correo que pasáre por el puerto en que se halle, la torna guía al administrador de la aduana que espidió la licencia, la cual le servirá de suficiente comprobante de haber cumplido con lo dispuesto en el Artículo 8, y sinó lo verificáse, quedará sujeto á la pena designada en el Artículo 9.

11. En las tornaguías se espresarán los nombres del buque y del capitán, los números de la licencia y de las fanegas ó toneladas que cargó, la fecha de su salida del puerto, ó caleta de donde proceda, y la de su llegada á aquel donde vaya.

12. Los administradores, y en su defecto la autoridad superior que resida en el lugar donde se desembarque el huano para el consumo del país, además de cumplir las prevenciones contenidas en el Artículo 8 remitirán mensualmente al Ministerio del Despacho de Hacienda las licencias que recojan, anotando en cada una la fecha en que llegó el buque á que pertenezca, la de la tornaguía que se otorgó al capitán, y el número de fanegas ó toneladas desembarcado, para que el tribunal mayor

de cuentas haga el correspondiente cotejo con las licencias y examine si estas casan bien con el recorte de que se habla en el Artículo 6.

13. Solo puede desembarcarse huano para el consumo del país en los puertos y caletas en que es permitido entrar á los buques nacionales por el reglamento de comercio, y demas habilitados por la costumbre para solo la importacion del huano.

14. Los capitanes que varien el destino de sus buques, llevando los cargamentos á un punto distinto del espresado en la licencia, serán juzgados como contrabandistas, y los buques y cargamentos caerán en comiso.

15. Todo buque nacional ó extranjero que fondeare ó entrare en las islas ó lugares en donde hubiere huano, sin la correspondiente licencia de las autoridades que deben otorgarla, caerá en comiso.

16. Todo buque nacional ó extranjero que estraiga huano de cualquiera otro punto que no sea de los señalados en el Artículo 3, caerá en comiso con su cargamento, y el capitan será juzgado como contrabandista.

17. Toda contravencion á lo dispuesto en los Artículos anteriores será juzgada por los juzgados de aduana en la parte que corresponde al comiso de los buques y sus cargamentos, y distribucion de su valor entre los denunciante y aprehensores, conforme á lo dispuesto en el Reglamento de Comercio.

18. Los capitanes de los buques de la Compañía del Estado quedan sujetos á la observancia de las formalidades establecidas en los Artículos anteriores, en la parte que les corresponda, y los socios de ella obligados á cumplir las condiciones contenidas en el contrato aprobado en 19 de Febrero del presente año.

19. Ningun buque de la Compañía podrá trasbordar el huano que conduzca, sino en el puerto de su destino, y siempre que se hiciere en éste, deberá acreditarse con un certificado de la respectiva aduana, la cantidad que se hubiese trasbordado, y la que se hubiese esportado.

20. Se prohíbe cazar ó matar pájaros en las islas huaneras y tomar sus nidadas ó polluelos, y el que lo hiciere, será penado en un peso á favor del denunciante por cada pájaro, huevo ó polluelo que tomáre ó maté.

21. Se aumentan cuatro plazas de guardas de á pie en el resguardo del Callao, y dos en el de Pisco, para que los primeros vayan alternándose en los buques de la compañía que se presenten á la carga, y los segundos rondan semanalmente las islas del huano. Los guardas que se aumentan en los resguardos del Callao y Pisco cesarán luego que termine la contrata.

El Ministro de Estado en el Departiamento de Hacienda queda encargado de la ejecucion y cumplimiento de este Decreto, que se publicara y registrará donde corresponda; y dése cuenta a la próxima Lejislatura.

Dado en la casa del Supremo Gobierno en Lima, á 21 de Marzo de 1842—22.

(Firmado) MANUEL MENENDEZ.
LUCIANO MARIA CANO.

(Translated Extracts.)

Department of Finance.

The citizen Manuel Menendez, President of the Council of State charged with the executive power of the Republic;

IT being of urgent necessity that measures should be adopted for the prevention of the contraband which may be carried on in guano, in prejudice to the interests of the State; and at the same time, that regulations should be issued relative to the extraction and sale of that article, which is indispensably necessary to the agriculture of the country; with the approbation of the Council of State, and in virtue of the 26th Attribution of the 87th Article of the Constitution;

Decrees :

Art. 1. Every national vessel which shall actually be engaged in the trade of guano for the agriculture of the country, shall be inscribed afresh, within the period of three months, in the register of the port to which she may belong ; and the captain of that port shall give due notice thereof to the Commandant-General of Marine. Henceforward no vessel shall be allowed to carry on this trade without having first complied with the said formality.

2. Every national vessel which shall not have been registered within the period of three months, and which shall afterwards be employed in the conveyance of guano, shall be confiscated.

3. For the present, and until the completion of the survey ordered to be made, the island situated to the north of Chincha Islands and the Pabellon de Pica, are the only places from which guano may be extracted by national vessels ; and those which shall extract it from any other parts or islands of the coast, not being the island to the north of Chincha Islands, or the Pabellon de Pica, shall be confiscated.

13. Guano for home consumption can only be landed in the ports and creeks into which national vessels are by the commercial regulations allowed to enter, and in those ports habilitated by custom for the importation only of guano.

15. Every national or foreign vessel which shall anchor at or approach the islands or places in which there may be guano, without the usual licence from the authorities empowered to issue the same, shall be confiscated.

16. Every national or foreign vessel which shall extract guano from any other places than those designated in Article 3, shall be confiscated, together with her cargo, and the master thereof shall be prosecuted as a smuggler.

17. Every contravention of the provisions of the foregoing Articles shall be tried before the courts of the custom-house, in so far as relates to the confiscation of the vessels and their cargoes, and the distribution of the value of the same amongst the informers and captors, in conformity to the provisions of the commercial regulations.

18. The captains of vessels belonging to the Company of the State, shall be required to observe the formalities established by the preceding Articles, in so far as they may correspond to them, and the shareholders thereof obliged to fulfil the conditions contained in the contract approved on the 19th of February of the present year.

20. It is prohibited to shoot or kill birds upon the guano islands, and also to take their eggs or nestlings ; and the person doing so shall be mulcted in the sum of one dollar, in favour of the informer, for every bird, egg, or nestling that he shall take or kill.

21. Four additional officers, on foot, shall be attached to the coast guard at Callao, and two to that at Pisco, in order that the former may in turn be put on board the vessels of the Company which shall present themselves for the purpose of taking in cargo, and that the latter may make weekly rounds of the guano islands. The extra officers appointed at Callao and Pisco shall be discharged on the expiration of the contract.

The Minister of State in the Department of Finance is charged with the execution and fulfilment of this Decree, which shall be published and registered where it may correspond, and let it be submitted to the next Legislature.

Given in the Government House at Lima, on the 21st of March, 1842.

(Signed) **MANUEL MENENDEZ.**

(Countersigned)

LUCIANO MARIA CANO.

No. 6.

Vice-Consul Sealy to the Earl of Aberdeen.—(Received September 20.)

My Lord,

Lima, May 14, 1842.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th of March last, transmitting to your Lordship a copy and translated extracts of a decree of the Peruvian Government, directing the adoption of sundry measures for the prevention of the contraband of guano, and establishing certain regulations relative to the extraction and sale of that article for home (Peruvian) consumption, I have the honour to inclose herein a copy and translation of a decree issued by the Government of Peru, under date of the 10th instant, enacting further measures for the regulation of the export of Peruvian guano to foreign parts.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. T. SEALY.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Decree of May 10, 1842, respecting Guano.

El ciudadano Manuel Menendez, Presidente del Consejo de Estado, encargado del Poder Ejecutivo, &c.

Considerando:

QUE conforme al contrato celebrado con Quiros, Allier y Ca., Puimirol, Poumaroux y Ca., y Gibbs, Crawley y Ca., en 19 de Febrero último, para la exportacion del huano de las islas de la República al extranjero, nadie puede hacerla, sin que sea por medio de la indicada sociedad;—que por decretos de 12 y 21 de Marzo último, se prohíbe a todo buque extranjero ó nacional que se dirija a las islas ó lugares donde hubiese huano, sin la correspondiente licencia de las autoridades que deben otorgarla; y finalmente, que la nacion está en el pleno derecho de prohibir la estraccion de esta sustancia por medios distintos de los espresados;

Decreto:

Art. 1. No puede extraerse para el extranjero cantidad alguna de huana de ninguna parte del territorio de la República en buque extranjero ó nacional, sino de la isla del norte de las de Chíncha, y únicamente por la Compañía del Estado con Quiros y demas socios.

2. Toda persona que directa ó indirectamente contribuya ó copere a la estraccion de huano al extranjero de cualquier otro punto del designado, será obligada a satisfacer al contado sesenta pesos por tonelada de las que registre el buque, que lo haya cargado, y no verificándolo, se le embargarán y rematarán bienes suficientes a cubrir el total que se aplicará a los denunciadores, conforme a las leyes que arreglan los comisos en las aduanas, por cuyos juzgados se seguirá la causa.

3. Los buques que hagan el contrabando, ó quebranten los Artículos 15 y 16 del Decreto de 21 de Marzo último, caerán en comiso, y sus capitanes serán sometidos á juicio como contrabandistas.

Art. 4. Ninguna autoridad de la República puede en caso alguno conceder permiso para la extraccion del huano al extranjero, y las aduanas no otorgarán los despachos que se les pidieren, sino la del Callao, para solo los buques de la Sociedad con el Estado.

El Ministro de Hacienda queda encargado de librar las órdenes convenientes a la ejecucion y cumplimiento de este Decreto.

Dado en la casa del Supremo Gobierno en Lima, a 10 de Mayo de 1842.

(Firmado)

MANUEL MENENDEZ.

LUCIANO MARIA CANO.

(Translation.)

The citizen Manuel Menendez, President of the Council of State, charged with the Executive Power, &c.

Considering :

THAT, in conformity to the contract concluded with Quiros, Allier and Co., Puimirol, Poumaroux and Co., and Gibbs, Crawley and Co., on the 19th of February last, for the exportation of guano from the islands of the Republic to foreign parts,—no one can do so unless by means of the said company ;—that by the Decrees of the 12th and 21st of March last, all foreign or national vessels are prohibited from proceeding to the islands or places where there may be guano, without the corresponding licence from the authorities by whom the same should be granted ; and finally, that the nation has a full right to prohibit the export of this article by means different to those before mentioned :

Decrees :

Art. 1. No quantity of guano shall be exported to foreign parts from any part of the territory of the Republic, whether in a foreign vessel or in a national vessel, excepting from the island north of the Chincha Islands, and solely by the Company of the State with Quiros and others.

2. Every person who shall either directly or indirectly aid or co-operate in the extraction of guano for foreign parts from any point other than that designated, shall be obliged to pay in cash, 60\$ (equal at the exchange of 48*d.* per dollar to 12*l.* sterling) per register ton of the vessel on board of which it may have been laden ; and in the event of this payment not being effected, a sufficient quantity of his property shall be seized and sold by auction to cover the total amount, which shall be delivered to the informers, conformably to the laws for the regulation of confiscations by the custom-house, before the tribunals of which the trial shall be instituted.

3. Vessels which shall engage in smuggling, or which shall violate the 15th and 16th Articles of the Decree of the 21st of March last, shall be confiscated, and the masters thereof shall take their trial as smugglers.

4. No authority of the Republic can in any case concede permission for the export of guano to foreign parts, and the custom-houses shall not grant the licences for which application may be made to them, excepting that of Callao, and then only to the vessels of the Company formed with the State.

The Minister of Finance will issue the necessary orders for the execution and fulfilment of this Decree.

Given in the Government House in Lima, the 10th of May, 1842.

(Signed) MANUEL MENENDEZ.

(Countersigned) LUCIANO MARIA CANO.

No. 7.

Viscount Sandon to Viscount Canning.

20, *Fludyer Street*, March 22, 1845.

LORD SANDON presents his compliments to Viscount Canning, and takes the liberty of requesting that his Lordship will have the goodness to furnish him with the means of satisfying the inquiry made in the inclosed letter from Messrs. J. Prowse and Company of Liverpool.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Messrs. Prowse to Viscount Sandon.

My Lord,

Liverpool, March 19, 1845.

WE should feel greatly obliged if your Lordship could obtain for us from the Foreign Office, the under-mentioned intelligence. G. H. Lawrence, Esq., has kindly desired us to make use of his name to your Lordship, if it would be of service to us.

It is supposed that guano may be obtained from two islands (or rocks) lying at some distance from the coast of Upper Peru, named "Lobos a Tierra" and "Lobos Afuera." We wish to be informed whether these islands belong or are subject to the Republic of Peru, and if by sending a vessel to either or both of these islands (or rocks), we should be infringing upon the laws, or rendering ourselves amenable to any proceedings from that Republic?

An early answer will oblige your, &c.

(Signed)

J. PROWSE & Co.

Position of said islands:—

Lobos de Tierra, o de Solavento, Latitude 6° 35' S., Longitude 80° 45' W.

Lobos de Afuera, o de Barlovento, Latitude 6° 59' S., Longitude 80° 42' W.

No. 8.

Viscount Canning to Viscount Sandon.

Foreign Office, March 27, 1845.

VISCOUNT CANNING presents his compliments to Viscount Sandon, and regrets that he cannot satisfactorily reply to Lord Sandon's note of the 22nd instant, or answer the inquiry made by Messrs. J. Prowse and Co., further than by stating that the two islands named by Messrs. J. Prowse and Co. are supposed to form part of the Territory of Peru; and that guano cannot be exported from Peru without a licence to that effect from the Government of that Republic.

No. 9.

Sir Howard Douglas to the Earl of Aberdeen.—(Received July 26.)

20, Fludyer Street, July 24, 1845.

SIR HOWARD DOUGLAS presents his compliments to the Earl of Aberdeen, and begs to transmit for his Lordship's favourable consideration, the inclosed memorial of Mr. Robert Falk, of Liverpool, representing that his vessel, the "Hibernia," has been seized, detained, and virtually confiscated by the Peruvian Government, under the circumstances described in the memorial; and praying the intervention of Her Majesty's Government with the Government of Peru, with the view of obtaining for him ample compensation for the heavy pecuniary loss alleged to have been thereby inflicted upon him.

No. 10.

Mr. Falk to the Earl of Aberdeen.—(Received July 26.)

My Lord,

Liverpool, July 22, 1845.

IT is with much regret that I have to-day to direct the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and to claim their assistance and protection in a case where the property and persons of Her Majesty's subjects have been most wantonly and unjustly outraged, and that too by the officers of a Government at amity with Her Majesty's Government.

D

About two years ago, the British brigantine "Hibernia," of Liverpool, belonging to one of our first Liverpool merchants, James Dempsey, Esq., and myself, and which since, by purchase, has become my entire property, was sent from this on a trading and fishery voyage to the Pacific Ocean, under the superintendence of a son of Mr. Dempsey, Henry Dermott Dempsey, as supercargo, being fitted out in a very superior manner, and furnished with the new patent diving apparatus, so much used now in this country by Government for submarine works. She was employed all last year in pearl-fishing and trading upon the western coast of South America, and when at Lima in November last, the supercargo, Henry D. Dempster, hearing of the loss of a vessel with a large quantity of treasure on board near the Lobos Islands, close to Lambayeque, in Peru, he made for that part of the coast, thinking that as his diving apparatus was the only one in South America, he would earn an excellent salvage previous to returning to Europe with a cargo of saltpetre, which he had been ordered to buy for owners' account in that neighbourhood.

The lost vessel being already entirely broken up, nothing but some chains were recovered by the "Hibernia," after a fruitless and arduous attempt of several weeks. The vessel then returned to Lambayeque; and it will be necessary to state that during her attempt to rescue the treasure from a depth of thirty yards under water, she had on board not only a custom-house officer and the owners of the lost treasure, but also a customs' licence.

The vessel had no sooner entered the Port of Lambayeque than the supercargo, Henry Dermott Dempsey, and the crew, were placed under arrest by the captain of the port; an embargo laid on the vessel, under some spurious pretence of violation of regulations; and the vessel subsequently condemned by the customs; they having allowed the same to run full of water. They not only seized the ship's papers, but actually took away the sails and inventory, depriving her of everything.

Against this arbitrary and unjustifiable proceeding the supercargo appealed to the courts of Lambayeque, which reversed the sentence. The other parties, not satisfied with this, took the matter to Truxillo, where they gained their point; and the supercargo then thought it his duty to go to the Supreme Court of Peru, at Lima, where, after paying fees and law expenses to the amount of several hundred pounds sterling, the proceedings were smashed, the court advising a new investigation which is now proceeding.

In the meantime, the vessel, if returned, will be perfectly useless to me; and I trust that Her Majesty's Government will see the necessity of protecting the commerce of this country, in distant parts, by compelling the Peruvian Government not only to disavow the scandalous proceedings of their officer, but also make immediate restoration of the value of the property they have robbed me of.

	£	s.	d.
The value of the brigantine "Hibernia" (a coppered vessel only three years old, with her outfit, interest, and expenses, up till to-day) is	2,800	0	0
To which have to be added the law expenses incurred till now, and the supercargo's passage home	200	0	0
And the freight she would have made upon the cargo of saltpetre to Liverpool, which the supercargo had orders to buy, and which would have come to an excellent market	2,000	0	0
Making together	5,000	0	0

I trust that Her Majesty's Government will, by the next West India mail, instruct the Admiral commanding the squadron, Her Majesty's ships in the Pacific, to repair to Lima, to demand the repayment of the above sum from the Peruvian Government, and such other damages as the unjustifiable arrest of a British vessel call for, and if not complied with immediately, take such steps as will enforce its payment.

I may mention that the Commander of a United States' man-of-war being at Lambayeque when this transaction took place, and knowing the whole of the circumstances from personal investigation, stated that if such an insult had been offered to any vessel belonging to his flag he would have immediately applied main force in settling the question.

Mr. Dempsey as well as myself are known personally to several members of your Lordship's house, as well as to many honourable members of the other House of Parliament, which may be a guarantee to your Lordship that we would not state but what will bear the strictest investigation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT FALK.

No. 11.

Mr. Bidwell to Mr. Adams.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 30, 1845.

I AM directed by the Earl of Aberdeen to transmit a copy of a letter from Mr. Robert Falk, of Liverpool, claiming compensation for the alleged improper acts of the Peruvian authorities at Lambayeque, in detaining and confiscating his vessel the "Hibernia;" and I am to instruct you to inquire into the circumstances of this case, and to make a full report thereupon to his Lordship.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BIDWELL.

No. 12.

Viscount Canning to Mr. Falk.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 11, 1845.

I AM directed by the Earl of Aberdeen to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ultimo, and to state to you that his Lordship will cause inquiry to be made in Peru, respecting the circumstances therein adverted to, relative to the detention and confiscation of your vessel, the "Hibernia," at Lambayeque.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CANNING.

No. 13.

Mr. Falk to Viscount Canning.—(Received December 8.)

*Winsford Lodge, near Middlewich, Cheshire,
October 6, 1845.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 11th August, upon the subject of the illegal confiscation of brigantine "Hibernia" by the Peruvian authorities, and have now received further accounts of said vessel, which can leave no doubts as to the justice and propriety of my claim to compensation, and I trust that Her Majesty's Government will see the necessity of enforcing immediate payment, unless they wish to see a continuance of these outrages upon the persons and properties of British subjects.

The accounts above referred to are of the 18th June, from Truxillo, stating, that "the Supreme Tribunal of Peru, after a thorough investigation of the circumstances, had exempted the supercargo and captain from all blame, and ordered the immediate restitution of the vessel to her lawful owners, which accordingly had been done;" thereby acknowledging the whole of the proceedings,—the seizing, condemnation, and detention for nine months, as well as the imprisonment of British subjects by their officers—to have been an illegal act of theirs.

Through this illegal detention, the whole of the objects of the voyage have been frustrated, an otherwise profitable voyage has been changed in

an exceedingly disastrous one, and even if the damages I claim, say 3000*l.*, are paid to me, I shall be a considerable loser.

I trust with these facts before their eyes, Her Majesty's Government will see the necessity of immediately enforcing my just claims, and in case of refusal take those coercive steps which I am sure either the French or American Government would have taken if such a case had happened to a subject of theirs.

From my own knowledge of Peruvian affairs, I feel satisfied that nothing short of a demonstration on the part of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in the Pacific, will induce the Peruvian Government to pay my just claim.

I trust it will not be long before I receive a satisfactory answer upon the subject, and in the meantime I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT FALK.

No. 14.

Mr. Bidwell to Mr. Adams.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1845.

WITH reference to the despatch of the 30th of July last which was addressed to you on the subject of the detention of the British vessel "Hibernia," of Liverpool, by the Peruvian authorities at Lambayeque, I am directed by the Earl of Aberdeen to forward to you the copy of a further letter which his Lordship has received from Mr. Robert Falk, stating that the "Hibernia" had been restored to the owners, after a detention of nine months, and repeating his demand for compensation from the Government of Peru, for the unauthorized detention of the before-mentioned vessel; and I am directed by the Earl of Aberdeen to instruct you to make inquiries respecting the circumstances under which the vessel was detained, and to give all the support to Mr. Falk's claim which, under the circumstances, Her Majesty's Government can properly afford.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BIDWELL.

No. 15.

Mr. Addington to Mr. Falk.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1845.

IN reply to your letter of the 6th ultimo, requesting that Her Majesty's Government would obtain compensation for the seizure and detention of your vessel the "Hibernia" by the Peruvian authorities, I am directed by the Earl of Aberdeen to inform you that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Peru has been instructed to inquire into the circumstances stated in your letter, and to render you all the assistance he properly can in supporting your claim.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 16.

Mr. Adams to the Earl of Aberdeen.—(Received February 10, 1846.)

My Lord,

Lima, December 3, 1845.

THE case of the "Hibernia," which is the subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th of July last, has been carefully watched by me during its whole course, of which I have now the honour to submit a full report, in compliance with your instructions.

The British brigantine "Hibernia," under controul of the supercargo, Mr. H. Dempsey, a son of the owner, sailed from Callao on the 14th of November, 1844, with a regular clearance for the Port of Lambayeque; but instead of going direct to that port, she went to the Lobos Islands in search of treasure from a wreck, without having obtained the permission either of the custom-house or the owners of the treasure, such proceeding being contrary to law. She remained at those islands from the 19th of November, 1844, till the 10th of January, 1845, when she went to Lambayeque; but in order to prevent the transaction from being known, the date of the sailing-licence from Callao was fraudulently altered. She then obtained a licence to go to the Lobos, although it is asserted that her first voyage to those islands was known to the authorities; and this second voyage is correctly described in Mr. Falk's letter to your Lordship of the 22nd of July, as being undertaken with a proper licence, and in the presence of a custom-house officer and one of the owners of the lost treasure. I have the honour to inclose the copy of a letter from Mr. Dempsey, in which most of the above facts are admitted.

On the second arrival of the "Hibernia" at Lambayeque, her first voyage had become officially known, as well as the alteration of the Callao clearance; the vessel was therefore seized by the authorities, and Mr. Dempsey detained on shore.

Mr. Falk's letter states correctly, that the sails were taken on shore; but he omits to add that this was done in consequence of an attempt of the master to get the vessel under weigh and escape; in proof of which I have the honour to refer to the depositions of two seamen, taken before Mr. Vice-Consul Barton. It is equally true that the vessel was allowed to run full of water, but Mr. Falk has failed to inform your Lordship that the leak was first discovered immediately after a visit paid to the vessel by the master, supercargo, and carpenter, and that, upon pumping her out, two auger-holes were found in her bottom, for which the carpenter was sent a prisoner to Callao, and is now on bail awaiting his trial on a charge of scuttling the vessel. In this state she was saved from sinking by the assistance of the United States' schooner of war "Shark."

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of a despatch and its inclosures from Rear-Admiral Sir George Seymour, containing the account of this transaction given by the Commander of the "Shark;" and a copy of my answer, in which I inform the Admiral that I had prevailed upon the Peruvian Government to give orders for the safety of the vessel, which was supposed to be endangered while awaiting her trial.

Under these circumstances, Sir George Seymour resolved to dispatch Her Majesty's ship "Modeste" to Lambayeque, to inquire into the matter, and to afford every protection possible to British persons and property. The "Modeste" sailed from Callao on the 8th of March, and I have the honour to inclose a copy of the report which Commander Baillie was ordered to make to me in the Admiral's absence, confirming in every particular what I have already stated.

The "Hibernia" was condemned in the Court of First Instance; she was acquitted on the first appeal, and finally absolved by a Superior Court; of which sentence I have the honour to inclose a copy and translation, manifesting an evident anxiety to find grounds of acquittal. Mr. Dempsey then applied to me for advice whether he should abandon the

vessel and bring a claim against the Peruvian Government for damages for detention. I replied, that unless he could satisfactorily clear up the accusations, that he undertook the first voyage contrary to law; that he falsified the date of the sailing-licence from Callao; that he attempted to resist the seizure of the vessel; and that the carpenter had attempted to scuttle the vessel while he and the master were on board, I considered the facts to involve so much grave suspicion that I should not feel myself authorized to support a claim for damages for detention on trial.

Mr. Dempsey made no attempt to clear his conduct from these charges, but brought his vessel to Callao and there sold her, as appears from the inclosed copy of a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Barton.

The forms of law may have produced some unnecessary, though not unusual, delay in bringing this case to a conclusion; but neither in form nor in substance has there been sufficient cause for a remonstrance to the Peruvian Government, without special instructions from your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM PITT ADAMS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Mr. Dempsey to Mr. Adams.

Sir,

Lambayeque, February 14, 1845.

BEING placed here in very unpleasant circumstances, I take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you, and stating my case as briefly as possible.

I left Callao with the brigantine "Hibernia," on November 14, 1844, on a fishing speculation, and cleared out for this port; but instead of proceeding here, I unfortunately went to the Lobos Islands, without having obtained permission to do so, where I arrived on November 19, 1844, and remained there until January 10, 1845, when I proceeded to this port in order to obtain information, and I also procured permission to go over to the Lobos Islands, having been informed on my arrival here that it was necessary to do so. The licence was given by the sub-prefect of this district; and at that time it was well known here that the vessel had been over at the Lobos Islands previous to coming over to this port, and notwithstanding this, the permission was given us. I then embarked afresh for the Lobos Islands, having on board a custom-house officer and a gentleman belonging to the Delgado family. On my return to the port after an absence of about a week, on purpose to land the custom-house officer, I was not on shore more than a quarter of an hour when I was placed under arrest by the captain of the port, without he having stated his grounds for such a proceeding. The captain of the port then proceeded on board with six custom-house officers and several Indians, and took forcible possession of the vessel under the pretence of passing an ordinary visit. He then forcibly sent the captain on shore and all the crew, with the exception of the mate and two hands; he also seized all the sails, arms, and log-book, and sent them on shore, and prohibited us from going on board. Since then the mate has absconded with the long-boat and the two of the crew that were on board, leaving the vessel at the mercy of the custom-house officer that was in charge, and the six Indians.

The captain and myself then asked permission to visit the vessel, in order to see if the mate had robbed any of our effects. This they allowed, ordering the custom-house officers to accompany us. After having been on board about half-an-hour, we left for another vessel lying in the harbour. We had not been there long before the custom-house officer in charge came and reported to us that the vessel was making much water. We immediately went on shore and informed the captain of the port, and requested assistance. The captain of the port then proceeded on board, and with the assistance of the United States' man-of-war schooner "Shark," at that moment just arrived, took the water out of her and made her sound. On the captain of the port's return he placed the carpenter who had accompanied us under arrest, under the charge of having attempted to sink her, and having kept him in confinement ever since, when it was more likely that one of the Indians, at the instigation of the captain of the

port, had attempted to do it, who had several times advised me to set fire to and sink the brig.

This is the substance of the case as briefly as I can state it to you ; and I trust you will be so kind as to send a commission to inquire into the case, and if you find that we have not been wilfully guilty of any violation of the laws, you will protect us and the vessel under English colours.

The captain of the United States' schooner "Shark" has kindly promised to take this, and to state to you the more minute circumstances of the case, as the hurry of his departure prevents me from entering into details. Trusting you will make allowances for the hurry I have been put to,

I remain, &c.

(Signed) HENRY D. DEMPSEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Depositions of Daniel Jackson and Edward Hewett.

THIS day personally appeared before me, John Barton, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul to Peru, Daniel Jackson and William Hewett, seamen, belonging to the English brigantine "Hibernia," belonging to the Port of Liverpool in Great Britain, who voluntarily and severally declared, That they, the said appearers, set sail in the brigantine from the Port of Callao in the latter part of the month of November last past, and proceeded direct to the Lobos Islands, where they found a quantity of fishermen; that the diving-bell of the aforesaid brigantine was sent down several times to the wreck of the Chilian brig "Manuela," but did not find any money, and only brought up a few skins and a few common straw hats. That there is guano on the island, but that nothing was taken off the island but some stone ballast. That after being at these islands for nearly a month, the appearers proceeded in the brig "Hibernia" to the Port of Lambayeque; that after laying a few days off Lambayeque under sail, a person called Don Pedro, and another person called Don Manuel, the latter being a custom-house officer, came on board, and the vessel sailed for the Lobos Islands again, with the above-mentioned gentlemen; that on the second arrival of the aforesaid brigantine at the Islands of Lobos, the diving-bell was sent down several times, and they got up three anchors and about fifty fathoms of chain cable, after which the aforesaid brigantine returned again to the Port of Lambayeque, where they came to an anchor; that on Mr. Dempsey going on shore he was made prisoner by the captain of the port (Mr. Dempsey being the son of the owner of the brigantine "Hibernia"), who proceeded on board the said brigantine on a *balsa* (raft), himself and men being armed, and took possession of her; that the mate of the vessel gave orders to the crew to cut her cable, and he himself loosed the jib, which was prevented from being hoisted by the captain of the port; that the master of the brigantine, John Kenney, was then taken on shore prisoner by the captain of the port, who left orders to have the larboard anchor let-go, and not to go to sea, leaving on board about eight or nine men in possession; that on the following day the sails were all unbent and taken on shore, as well as the arms belonging to the vessel, say muskets and cutlasses, with a small keg of powder, also five gold watches belonging to the master; that some days after the carpenter and two able seamen were taken on shore, where they were kept for nearly three weeks, when they, the deponents, heard that the mate, cook, and one seaman, had run away with the long-boat of the before-mentioned brigantine, and that they have not been heard of since; that some day after the above event, Mr. Dempsey, the mate, and the carpenter, went on board the brigantine to get some clothes, having procured leave from the captain of the port, and returned on shore the same evening with a few things that were left, most of their clothes having been plundered; that the following day a *balsa* came on shore to say that the vessel was sinking; that the United States' schooner "Shark" made her appearance, and on application of the captain of the port, the officer commanding the "Shark" sent a party of men on board the brigantine, who pumped her out and stopped the leak; that the commander

of the United States' schooner "Shark" offered the deponents a passage to Callao, which they accepted, the captain of the port of Lambayeque having no objection thereto.

(Signed) DANIEL JACKSON,
his
EDWARD ✕ HEWETT,
mark.
Seamen of the English brigantine "Hibernia."

(Signed) JOHN BARTON,
British Vice-Consul to Peru.

Daniel Jackson and Edward Hewett, seamen, belonging to the English brigantine "Hibernia," of Liverpool, being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, do severally make oath and say that the several matters and things set forth in the foregoing deposition, which has been clearly and distinctly read over to them, the deponents, are just and true.

(Signed) DANIEL JACKSON,
his
EDWARD ✕ HEWETT.
mark.

Sworn at the British Consulate at Callao, this sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

Before me,
(Signed) JOHN BARTON,
British Vice-Consul to Peru.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

Rear-Admiral Sir George Seymour to Mr. Adams.

Sir, "Collingwood," Callao, March 6, 1845.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of letters which Commodore Stoot has sent me, relative to the detention of the British brig "Hibernia" at Lambayeque, by which also it appears that one or more of her crew are imprisoned at that place by the local officers of the Peruvian Government.

I also add a memorandum of the verbal statement made to me by Lieutenant Howison, of the United States' schooner "Shark," of the supposed circumstances attending the detention of the "Hibernia."

I have requested Mr. Barton to take the depositions of the two men belonging to the vessel who have arrived in the "Shark," and propose to order one of Her Majesty's ships to proceed off Lambayeque in consequence of this transaction.

I shall be obliged to you previously to furnish me with any information in your power as to the Peruvian law upon which the detention of the vessel is stated to be founded.

It cannot, as I apprehend, be permitted that a vessel seized for any infraction of the law should be detained at an unsafe anchorage, without any attempt being made to bring her to adjudication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. SEYMOUR,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-chief.

Inclosure 4 in No. 16.

Lieutenant Howison to Commodore Stoot.

ON the 11th in the afternoon, I anchored at Lambayeque, just in time to save the English brig "Hibernia" from sinking, she having been scuttled in the morning and in the act of going down, when the "Shark's" men got on board

and baled her out. She was under seizure, and in the hands of the captain of the port, for a violation of a law of Peru which prohibits vessels touching at the Lobos Islands without special licence.

Upon landing at Lambayeque, the supercargo and captain of the "Hibernia," from the fact of there being no English Consul there, requesting me to intercede for the release of the carpenter of the brig, who was close prisoner on shore, on the charge of having attempted to destroy the brig by scuttling her; I did ask his release in a letter to the collector of the Customs; inclosed is a copy of it, with the answer I received. I offered to the supercargo and captain to bring any or all of them up to Callao, if they were in need of a passage. Two Englishmen availed themselves of the opportunity and are now on board.

Sir,

*United States' schooner "Shark,"
Lambayeque, February 14, 1845.*

I HAVE been requested by the supercargo, Mr. Dempsey, of the seized brig "Hibernia," to intercede in favour of the carpenter of that brig, now confined on shore, on a charge of having scuttled that vessel.

I hope you will not consider it presumption in me to suggest that as the offence was committed on board a vessel bearing the English flag, and as it has been usual to submit such cases to the jurisdiction of the British Consul (if there should be any there resident) it would be in accordance with such custom to take the earliest opportunity of placing the accused within the jurisdiction of the British Consul at Lima.

The United States' schooner "Shark," under my command, sails this evening for the south, and it would be agreeable to me to give the accused a passage to Callao, and there place him on board a British Government ship, for such disposition as the Consul of his country may choose to make of him.

I am, &c.

(Signed) NEIL M. HOWISON,
Lieutenant Commanding.

To Fernando Ex. Helme, Esq.
Minister of Customs, Lambayeque.

*Administration of Customs,
Port of San José, February 15, 1845.*

To the Commander of the United States' schooner "Shark."

TO the esteemed note which you yesterday addressed to the office under my care, offering to take the carpenter of the English schooner "Hibernia," Bernard Hood, and deliver him to his Consul at Lima, to be tried, if he should desire it, for the act charged against him of boring (scuttling) said brig "Hibernia," which was done on the 11th instant, I have to reply, that I instantly placed the whole matter before the Political Chief of this province, that his consent might be given, telling him at the same time that you only waited his decision until 8 o'clock of to-day, as the vessel under your command would sail at said hour for the Port of Callao.

It is now 8 o'clock in the morning, and I have not yet received the answer, by which I promised myself authority to act in the case, which I communicate to you with much regret, not having the satisfaction to fulfil your desires, as well as those which animate me as a Peruvian subject, towards a friendly nation, as is that of the United States.

God guard you, &c.

(Signed) FERNANDO EX. HELME.

Substance of the Statement of Lieutenant Howison respecting the "Hibernia."

Lieutenant Howison states that the brig "Hibernia" was a vessel of about 110 tons, originally fitted out with a diving apparatus for getting pearl, which she failed in obtaining, near Panamá, and her captain died. That a young man, the mate, who since succeeded to the command, left Callao, clearing out for

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Lambayeque last November, and having heard that a Chilean vessel had been lost with specie on board, on the Lobos d'Afuera rocks, about fifty miles to the west of Lambayeque, appears to have gone direct to the rocks, and to have recovered part of the wreck, but not, as he says, any money.

He then went to Lambayeque with the vessel, and put himself in communication with the captain of the port and the owners of the money lost in the Chilean brig, and with their approval took on board a Peruvian officer of the Customs, and went again to renew his attempt to save the lost specie, to Lobos d'Afuera, but was not more successful, and returned to Lambayeque, where his vessel was seized on the grounds of his having altered the date of the clearance from Callao, which he showed at his first arrival at Lambayeque, and having gone to the islands, which the Peruvians had forbid, in consequence of all guano on the coast being declared to be public property.

They sent officers and people on board armed, to make this seizure, but the master and crew attempted to sail in spite of them, but were prevented, and the principal part of the crew were landed, and also the vessel's sails.

There appears to have been afterwards a reference to Truxillo, to get the vessel's log translated, but in the beginning of February no order for the release of the vessel having been given, it seems that the master, supercargo, and carpenter, having been allowed to go on board the vessel, she was found afterwards to be sinking. This was prevented by the assistance of an American whaler, and subsequently by that of the United States' schooner "Shark," who found two auger-holes had been bored, which had produced the leak, and which were supposed to have been made by the master, supercargo, and carpenter, and the latter was placed in close confinement in the custom-house, notwithstanding the offer to bring him to Callao, made by Lieutenant Howison.

That officer concurs with Captain Fitzroy in considering the anchorage off Lambayeque as very unsafe. There is no communication with the shore possible, except by *balsas*, and a vessel cannot prudently anchor nearer than two miles from the village.

It is stated that the vessel is in ballast, and there is no reason to believe that she has attempted to take any guano at any time on board.

(Signed) G. F. SEYMOUR,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-chief.

Inclosure 5 in No. 16.

Mr. Adams to Rear-Admiral Sir G. Seymour.

Sir,

Lima, March 7, 1845.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch respecting the detention of the British brig "Hibernia" at Lambayeque. From the statements contained in the inclosures to your despatch and the depositions of the two seamen of the "Hibernia," I cannot entertain a very favourable opinion of the conduct of the master and supercargo, as, independently of the illegal voyage to the Lobos Rocks, which might be supposed to be justified by the consent of the authorities to a second voyage, there are three circumstances, any one of which might furnish sufficient grounds for the detention of the vessel for trial. I allude to the falsification of the clearance from the Callao custom-house; the attempt to scuttle the vessel; and the resistance offered to the authorities when they came to take possession of her.

It is very possible that all these points may be satisfactorily explained; but I did not feel myself authorized to do more, in an interview which I have just held with the Peruvian Minister, than to act upon the last paragraph of your despatch, by requesting that, in consideration of the dangerous anchorage off Lambayeque, orders might be sent for the conveyance of the "Hibernia" to a more secure harbour. The Minister promised to comply with my request, and proposes to send by any vessel you may dispatch to that port his orders to the provincial authorities on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. PITT ADAMS.

Inclosure 6 in No. 16.

Commander Baillie to Mr. Adams.

Sir,

"Modeste," at Sea, April 5, 1845.

IN accordance with my orders from Rear-Admiral Sir George F. Seymour, G.C.H., Commander-in-chief, I herewith transmit copies of my communication to him in the case of the British brigantine "*Hibernia*," the receipt of which I beg you will be pleased to acknowledge.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. BAILLIE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 16.

Commander Baillie to Rear-Admiral Sir G. Seymour.

Sir,

"Modeste," at Sea, April 5, 1845.

I HAVE the honour to report to you, that on parting company with Her Majesty's ship "*Collingwood*," bearing your flag, on the evening of the 8th of March, 1845, I proceeded, in execution of my orders, off Lambayeque, where I anchored in Her Majesty's sloop under my command on the 11th of the same month at 6 P.M.

The following morning I received an official visit from the captain of the port, whom I accompanied on shore on a *balsa*; and on landing at the village of San José, I found the persons named in the margin,* belonging to the British brigantine "*Hibernia*," which vessel was at anchor in the roads under the charge of the custom-house authorities of the place.

With the view of fully carrying your instructions into effect, I proceeded to the town of Lambayeque, and had an interview with the Sub-Prefect of the province, who admitted there had been great delay in the trial of the "*Hibernia*," but accounted for it from being under the necessity of sending the vessel's log to Truxillo to be translated. He stated to me that she had already been tried and condemned to be confiscated for certain infractions of the established regulations by master and supercargo; but that an appeal had been made to a superior court at Lambayeque, and that the trial was then pending. The Sub-Prefect then stated, that under these circumstances he had not the power to give up the vessel, or to permit her removal to Callao or Paita; but he assured me that he would do all in his power to expedite the trial, which he believed would be concluded in three or four days.

Having received a letter from Mr. Dempsey, requesting me to await the issue of the trial, which I had strong reasons to believe would terminate favourably for the vessel, I decided on waiting the result in order to afford any assistance in my power; but several days having passed without my receiving any information, I addressed a letter to the Sub-Prefect, which letter and reply I have the honour to inclose.

On the 27th March I received a letter from Mr. Dempsey, informing me that the trial had ended in the vessel's acquittal, but that an appeal had been made by the prosecutors to the court at Truxillo, to which place I immediately proceeded and obtained an interview with the Prefect, to whom I delivered the letter addressed to him, and inclosed in your orders to me; urging upon him at the same time the necessity of removing the vessel to Callao, or to some other safe anchorage.

The state of the surf prevented my returning on board until the 3rd of April at 4 P.M., at which time I sailed for Callao.

Having collected all the information in my power relative to the seizure and detention of the "*Hibernia*," I beg to refer you to the accompanying state-

* George Kenney, Master; Henry D. Dempsey, Supercargo.

ment for the particulars, and to the annexed paper for the substance of the grounds on which the vessel was acquitted by the court at Lambayeque. I beg leave to inclose the other documents enumerated in the inclosed schedule.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. BAILLIE.

Inclosure 8 in No. 16.

Particulars of the circumstances which led to the Seizure and Detention of the "Hibernia," by the authorities of Lambayeque.

IT appears that the said brig sailed from Callao on the 14th November, 1844, having cleared out at that place for Lambayeque; that instead of proceeding directly hither she touched at the Island of Lobos, where she anchored twice without permission from the authorities; that they then proceeded to Lambayeque, where they obtained permission to proceed to the Island of Lobos, it being publicly known and spoken of in Lambayeque at the time the permission was granted, that they had been there twice previous; that on their return to Lambayeque, the supercargo was arrested by the captain of the port, who then boarded the vessel; and that whilst he was below in the cabin taking the deposition of the captain, an attempt was made to cut the chain-cable, and to get her under weigh, in consequence of which the master was brought on shore by the captain of the port, and the sails landed, after which the mate and two men deserted in the long-boat; that the captain, supercargo, and carpenter were subsequently permitted to accompany the captain of the port and collector of customs, for the purpose of taking a fresh inventory, in consequence of the desertion of the mate and men; that fifteen or twenty minutes after leaving the vessel she was found to be making water, which appeared to proceed from the auger-holes in her bottom. The carpenter had been left on board in charge of the vessel (by the captain of the port), and was immediately taken on shore with his tool-chest and placed in confinement.

That the date of her custom-house clearance from Callao was altered by Mr. Dempsey, the supercargo (by his own admission to me), from the 14th November, 1844, to the 6th January, 1845.

The object of the "Hibernia's" visiting the Island of Lobos was to recover property wrecked there in the brig "Manuel;" but it appears evident that they did not recover any bullion, of which a quantity was said to have been lost in the "Manuel."

Given under my hand, on board Her Majesty's ship "Modeste," at sea, this 5th day of April, 1845.

(Signed) THOS. BAILLIE, *Commander.*

Inclosure 9 in No. 16.

Substance of the grounds on which the "Hibernia" was acquitted by the Court of Appeal at Lambayeque.

THAT the judicial proceedings by the captain of the port in the first stage of the process are illegal and void from the want of jurisdiction on his part, such not being within the sphere of his official duties, and likewise in his having a direct interest in the condemnation of the vessel, which in such case would be adjudged to him as a prize.

The defect of legal proof, the witnesses being *balsa* men (Indians), who are directly subordinate to him, subject to military law, being as such, not legal evidence according to the Spanish law, where their commander is a party concerned.

Want of legal evidence of the alleged log-book being that of the vessel.

Ignorance of the master as to the prohibition of the Island of Lobos, the law prohibiting which (of the 12th March, 1842) being declared to be part of and additional to the Reglamento de Comercio, and as such should have been notified as provided by Article 8 of that Reglamento; this was not done, nor is the said addition usually handed to masters of vessels in Callao for their government.

That though the axiom of the Spanish law is, that ignorance thereof is no justification for its infringement, and is true as far as regards subjects of the State, yet it does not hold good with respect to foreigners with respect to fiscal prohibitions of the nature of that pointed out, especially when such law provides it shall be notified to them, and this provision not complied with.

Knowledge of the captain of the port and other authorities, of the "Hibernia's" having touched at the Island of Lobos, notwithstanding which they subsequently granted licence to her to go there.

Given under my hand, on board Her Majesty's sloop "Modeste," at sea, this 5th of April, 1845.

(Signed) THOMAS BAILLIE, *Commander.*

Inclosure 10 in No. 16.

Mr. Dempsey to Commander Baillie.

Sir,

San José, March 13, 1845.

BY the advice of the attorney who is employed to defend the law-suit now pending respecting the brigantine "Hibernia," I beg leave to state that he considers it of the greatest importance towards the attainment of a favourable issue, that Her Majesty's sloop under your command should remain in the port until a sentence is pronounced by the Court of Appeal, before which the cause now lays. In consequence of which I beg leave to lay before you the above-mentioned opinion, and respectfully to solicit your favourable attention thereto, and have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY H. DEMPSEY.

Inclosure 11 in No. 16.

Commander Baillie to the Sub-Prefect of Lambayeque.

Sir,

"Modeste," Lambayeque, March 18, 1845.

SIX days having elapsed since I had the honour of communicating with you regarding the detention of the brigantine "Hibernia," since which time I have not received the information I was led to expect from you as to the probable period of the termination of the proceedings against that vessel, I have again to urge upon you the necessity of steps being taken to prove her culpability or otherwise, and in the event of her further detention, I request that she may be removed to Callao or some other safe anchorage; in which latter case I have to inform you that the British Government will hold the authorities in charge of the vessel responsible for any embezzlement of her stores.

Requesting the favour of an early reply,

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS BAILLIE.

Inclosure 12 in No. 16.

The Sub-Prefect of Lambayeque to Commander Baillie.

Lambayeque, March 19, 1845.

To the Commander of the British ship-of-war "Modeste."

I REPLY to your esteemed note of yesterday's date, informing you that according to the inquiries made by me relative to the sequestration of the brig "Hibernia," it appears that the defender of her, Captain George Kenney, has caused the delay of the suit; the transfer of which vessel to Callao or other secure harbour, which you solicit, is forbidden to me to consent to, it not being in my power to do so without the said measure causing the detriment which the

stores of the aforesaid vessel may suffer; because these may be demanded in conformity with the laws of the State, which you ought to consult, and I cause to be fulfilled within the sphere which they assign to me.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE DIOS DIAZ.

Inclosure 13 in No. 16.

Mr. Dempsey to Commander Baillie.

Sir,

San José, March 27, 1845.

HAVING been informed that the English brigantine "Hibernia" has this day been acquitted by the Court of Appeal in Lambayeque, and that the Government Prosecutor has appealed to the second Court of Appeal in Truxillo, I beg to inform you of the same, and respectfully solicit your attention thereto, and have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY D. DEMPSEY

Inclosure 14 in No. 16.

Extract from the Log of the "Hibernia."

November 14, 1844.		Sailed from Callao.
" 19, "	"	Took a pilot; anchored in 18 fathoms; Islands of Lobos; daylight; out long-boat and commenced diving.
December 4, "	"	Found a keg of green paint and a barrel of molasses.
" 7, "	"	Got up a cask of molasses.
" 24, "	"	Found two bales of leather and a bale of hats.
" 27, "	"	Found some spare sails lying rotten at the bottom.
January 2, "	"	Found the rudder.
" 6, "	"	Sailed from the Island of Lobos.
" 7, "	"	A.M.; high land of Lambayeque; bore north-east twenty miles; 2 P.M., went on board the brig "Isabella;" 3, about ship, and stood across for the islands; 5, got the long-boat out. Mr. Dempsey, the mate, and two men back to Lambayeque.
" 8, "	"	Come to an anchor.
" 10, "	"	Long-boat not returned by 8 P.M.
" 11, "	"	1 P.M., long-boat returned.
" 12, "	"	Sailed.
" 13, "	"	Hove-to off Lambayeque. Mr. Dempsey went on shore. 8 P.M., calm; dropped anchor under fort.
" 16, "	"	Mr. Dempsey came on board; stood across to the Lobos Islands.
" 17, "	"	Anchored.
" 18, "	"	Commenced using the diving-bell.
" 20, "	"	Found a small boat's anchor, several blocks, copper bolts, &c.
" 22, "	"	Got two anchors without stocks.

N.B.—23rd. Commences in the same handwriting until noon, when the following appears in a different hand.

I have given this book to the captain of the port, which is the log-book of the said brigantine "Hibernia," kept by Captain George Kenney, and the said captain of this port has received off this port, Lambayeque, January 26, 1845.

(Signed) JOHN LEGG,

Mate of the said vessel.

He recibida el mencionado libro fecha el supra.

(Signed)

FRANCISCO ROMANO.

MARIANO SANCHEO, *Acto.*

The book commences at Panamá, July 3, 1844.

Inclosure 15 in No. 16.

Sentencia de 3a Instancia.

Trujillo, 9 Junio de 1845. Vestos, con lo expuesto por el Señor Fiscal, considerando, primero: aunque se ha probado, que el bergantin Ingles "Hibernia" fondéo en la Isla alto de Lobos, contraveniendo á lo dispuesto en el Artículo 6 del Supremo Decreto de 12 de Mayo, 1842, su capitan, Don Jorge Kenney, ignora el contenido de este Artículo por descuido del teniente del resguardo del Callao, Don Miguel Urbina, que no entregó al capitan el reglamento que se da á todo buque extranjero como se ve en el informe de fojas 135 producido por el comandante de aquel resguardo, Don Augustin Nestares. Segundo, que el Gobierno al imponer la prohibicion de que fondearan los buques en la empresada isla, dicto que se pusiese en noticia de los capitanes de las embarcaciones para lo que mandó adiciones el citado decreto al Reglamento de Comercio, ciudando de esta suerte que los extranjeros fueran informados de la restriccion á que los sujetaba. Tercero, que aun cuando Don Jorge Kenney alejó en su estrito de fojas, que no se le habia instruido en el citado Artículo del Decreto de 12 de Marzo, 1842, ho lleo á comprobalo hasta esta tercera instancia en que ha presentado en informe de la comandancia del resguardo del Callao corriente á fojas 135 la que aine en la segunda apelacion es admisible segun el tenor de la ley treinta y cuatro, titulo diez y seis, partida tercera. Cuatro, que el capitan del puerto de San José, Don Francisco Romano, al denunciar que el bergantin "Hibernia" fondéo en la Isla alto de Lobos, como se ha hecho constar por la informacion de siete testigos hábiles é idoneos, ha desempañado los deberes á que lo obligaba su destino. Quinto, que la infraccion en que incurrio el Capitan Kenney en anclas el expresado buque en la Isla de Lobos, ha provenido del defecto que se nota en el teniente de resguardo del Callao, Don Miguel Urbina, que no cumplio con las disposiciones del Artículo 8, sesios primera del Reglamento de Comercio. Por estos fundamentos, revocaron la sentencia de Primera Instancia, de fojas sesenta y una vuelta su fecha 7 de Marzo ultimo; confirmaron la pronunciada en viente y seis del propio Marzo corriente, á fojas ciento tres en la parte que absuelve al Capitan Don Jorge Kenney; y mandaron se le entregue el bergantin "Hibernia" con sus utiles, y la revocaron en la que deja á salvo el derecho de este para repetir por los perjuicios. Llegarse saber y deae cuenta al Supremo Gobierno conforme al Artículo 124 del Reglamento de Comercio.—Tres rubricas.

Dieron y pronunciaron la sentencia que antecede los Señores Doctor Don Apolinar Bracamante, Vocal de la Ilustrisima Corte Superior de Justicia, Don Pedro Lacomba, Administrador de este Tesoreria Principal, y Don Juan Manuel Gonzales, Disputado de Comercio, Presidente y Vocales del Tribunal de Segunda Apelacion de Presas y Comisos, habiéndose notado y cleido en audiencia pública á presencia de la parte, procuradores y portero, de que certifico.—Mannel Podierna.

Decreto Supremo.

Lima, 30 Junio, 1845.

Vista al Señor Fiscal de la Corte Supremo. Rio.

Excelentísimo Señor,—El Fiscal dice, que el capitan del bergantin "Hibernia," quebranto los leyes del pais, y porque esta fué sometido a juicio. El Juez de Primera Instancia aplico la pena de comisa al buque que es la que la ley señala á la infraccion. Apelada da causa revoco, el juzgado de apelacion da sentencia y suplicada hube un voto por la confirmacion y dos por la revocacion del ante. Como no hube dos votos conformes, fué declarada la milidad, y se esparaba que se dirimiese la discordia y se sentencio la causa los juezes variarva su dictamen y salvaron al buque del comiso, y se da parte á vuestra Excelencia para la ejecucion del falla. No se halla este en estado de que se ejecute. No le se ha hecho saber al Fiscal, al menor no consta del testimonio remitido. Puede interponerse recurso de debio hacerse saber tambien. Si estos funcionarios no lo interpusiesen, lo interpondra el que halla. Por todo esto, puede vuestra Excelencia mandar se devuelva la nota al Juez de Comiso, para que disponga, haga saber la

sentencia al Fiscal y al aprehensar. No es de presumir que dejen de entablar el recuso de nulidad para ante la Corte Suprema de una sentencia pronunciada contra ley expresa, y de la que tiene noticia el Fiscal, por haber tenido los autos á la vista, y examinados. Si esos funcionarios no cumpliesen con su deber, el Tribunal interpondrá el recurso á su vez.

Lima, 17 de Julio, 1845.

(Firmado)

MANATEGUI.

Resolucion Supremo del Gobierno.

Lima, 4 de Agosto, 1845.

Devuelvose al Juzgado de Comisos de Primera Apelacion del Departamento de la Libertad, para los fines que indica el Ministerio Fiscal, con cuyo dictamen se conforma el Gobierno por hallarlo conforme á la ley, á lo que aquel debe sujetarse.

Una rubrica de su Excelencia el Presidente de la Republica. Rio.

(Translation.)

Sentence of Third Instance.

Truxillo, June 9, 1845.—Examined, together with the opinion of the Fiscal, and considering, first, that although it has been proved that the English brig "Hibernia" anchored at the high Island of Lobos, in contravention of the 6th Article of the Supreme Decree of the 12th of March, 1842, her captain, Mr. George Kenney, was ignorant of such article through the neglect of the lieutenant of the searching office of Callao, Don Miguel Urbina, in not delivering to the captain the regulations presented to every foreign vessel, as is proved at p. 135 on the evidence of the commander of that office, Don Agustin Nestares. Secondly, that the Government, when prohibiting vessels from anchoring at that island, ordered that the captains of all vessels should be made acquainted with it, for which purpose it was added to the Commercial Regulations, thus providing that foreigners should be informed of this restriction. Thirdly, that although Mr. George Kenney stated in his petition, that he had not been informed of the above article of the Decree of the 12th of March, 1842, he failed to prove the fact until this trial of third instance, when he has presented the declaration of the Commander at Callao, as at p. 135, which would have been admissible even in the second instance, by law 34, cap. 16, sect. 3. Fourthly, that the captain of the port of San José, Don Francisco Romano, when he notified that the brig "Hibernia" had anchored at the high Island of Lobos, as is proved by the evidence of seven fair and proper witnesses, has fulfilled the duties of his office. Fifthly, that the infraction of the law committed by Captain Kenney in anchoring the above vessel at the Island of Lobos, has proceeded from the neglect of the Lieutenant at Callao, Don Miguel Urbina, in not fulfilling the instructions of Article 8, Section 1, of the Commercial Regulations. For these reasons they revoked the sentence of First Instance, at page 61, dated the 7th of March last; confirmed that pronounced on the 26th of March, at page 103, as regards the part which acquits Captain George Kenney, and ordered that the brig "Hibernia" should be delivered over to him, with everything belonging to her, and revoked it as regards the part which permits him to claim for damages.

Let this be reported to the Supreme Government, according to Article 124 of the Commercial Code.—Three signatures.

The above sentence was given and pronounced by Dr. Don Apolinar Bracamante, Judge of the most illustrious Supreme Court of Justice; Dr. Don Pedro Lombari, Administrador of this Principal Treasury; and Don Juan Manuel Gonzalez, Deputy of Commerce; President and Judges of the Tribunal of Second Appeal of Prizes and Captures; it having been voted and read in public in the presence of the procurators and the porter; to which I certify.

MANUEL PODIERNAL

*Supreme Decree.**Opinion of the Fiscal (Attorney-General.)**Lima, June 30, 1845.*

To the Fiscal of the Supreme Court, Rio.

Your Excellency,—The Fiscal says that the captain of the brig “Hibernia” infringed the laws of the country, for which he was put on trial. The Judge of First Instance adjudged the penalty of confiscation to the vessel, being the penalty awarded by law. This being appealed against, the Court of Appeals revoked the sentence, there being one vote for its confirmation and two for its revocation. As there were not two votes exactly alike, it was declared void; it was hoped that the difference would be arranged and the cause was sentenced. The judges altered their sentence and saved the vessel from confiscation, and it is reported to your Excellency for the fulfilment of the decree. This cannot yet be done. The Fiscal has not been informed of it: at any rate, it does not appear in the evidence transmitted. A plea of nullity can be presented either by the Fiscal or by the capturer, who ought also to have been informed of it. If these officers do not present it, the speaker will do so. For all these reasons your Excellency can order the note to be returned to the Judge of Confiscations in order that he may acquaint the Fiscal and the capturer with it. It is not to be supposed that they will omit to present a plea of nullity before the Supreme Court, of a sentence pronounced against an express law, of which the Fiscal was aware, as he had the evidence before him under examination. If those officers do not fulfil their duty, the tribunal will present itself at the proper time.

Lima, July 17, 1845.

(Signed) MANATEGUI.

*Resolution of the Supreme Government.**Lima, August 4, 1845.*

Let this be returned to the Judge of Confiscations of the First Instance of the Department of Libertad, for the purposes explained by the Fiscal, with whose opinion the Government coincides, as it is in conformity with the law to which that office is subject. Rubric of his Excellency the President of the Republic. Rio.

Inclosure 16 in No. 16.

Vice-Consul Barton to Mr. Adams.

Sir,

Callao, November 15, 1845.

IN reply to your despatch of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform you that the British brigantine “Hibernia” has been sold, according to a letter addressed to me by Mr. Henry D. Dempsey (son of the owner) on the 29th of September last.

On the 10th instant I transmitted her register to the collector of Her Majesty's customs at the Port of Liverpool, by the barque “Wilhelmina,” which vessel sailed from hence on the 12th instant.

The master and all the crew were paid off, according to documents in the archives of this Consulate, including Adam Crosbie, the carpenter, who is now out of prison, under the bail of Mr. John Coombes, a resident in this port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BARTON.

No. 17.

Mr. Adams to the Earl of Aberdeen.—(Received April 11.)

My Lord,

Lima, January 31, 1846.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 31st of October last, I have already had the honour, in my despatch of December 3 of last year, to

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report fully on the subject of the British vessel "Hibernia;" and no fresh facts have since come to my knowledge which could justify my putting forward a claim for compensation for her detention, without receiving your Lordship's special directions to that effect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. PITT ADAMS.

No. 18.

Mr. Addington to Mr. Robert Falk.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 27, 1846.

WITH reference to your letters dated the 22nd of July and 6th of October, 1845, requesting the interference of Her Majesty's Government to obtain from the Government of Peru, compensation for the seizure and detention, at the Port of Lambayeque, of the brigantine "Hibernia," I am directed by the Earl of Aberdeen to state to you, that after a due consideration of the report from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Lima, Lord Aberdeen is of opinion that Her Majesty's Government would not be justified in supporting your claim for damages against the Peruvian Government.

The case was carefully watched by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and by the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's Naval Forces in the Pacific.

The "Hibernia" sailed from Callao on the 14th of November, 1844, with a regular clearance for the Port of Lambayeque, but instead of going direct to that port, she went to the Lobos Islands in search of treasure from a wreck, without having obtained the permission, either of the custom-house or of the owners of the treasure; such proceeding being contrary to law. She remained at those islands from the 19th of November, 1844, till the 10th of January, 1845, when she went to Lambayeque; but in order to prevent the transaction from being known, the date of the sailing-licence from Callao was fraudulently altered. She then obtained a licence to go to the Lobos. This second voyage is correctly described in your letter to Lord Aberdeen of the 22nd of July, as being undertaking with a proper licence, and in the presence of a custom-house officer and one of the owners of the lost treasure.

On the second arrival of the "Hibernia" at Lambayeque, her first voyage had become officially known, as well as the alteration of the Callao clearance; the vessel was therefore seized by the authorities, and Mr. Dempsey, the supercargo, detained on shore.

Your letter states correctly that the sails were taken on shore, but you omit to add that this was done in consequence of an attempt of the master to get the vessel under weigh, and escape, the proof of which is shown in the depositions of two seamen, taken before Mr. Vice-Consul Barton. The leak in the vessel was also first discovered immediately after a visit to her by the master, supercargo, and carpenter, and upon pumping her out, two auger-holes were found in her bottom, upon which the carpenter was sent a prisoner to Callao, to take his trial on a charge of scuttling the vessel. In this state she was saved from sinking by the assistance of the United States' schooner of war "Shark."

Sir George Seymour dispatched Her Majesty's ship "Modeste" to Lambayeque, to inquire into the matter and to afford every protection possible to British persons and property.

The "Hibernia" was condemned in the Court of First Instance, she was acquitted on the first appeal, and finally absolved by a superior court, thereby manifesting an evident anxiety to find grounds of acquittal. Mr. Dempsey then applied to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires for advice, whether he should abandon the vessel, and bring a claim against the Peruvian Government for damages for detention. But he was told that unless he could satisfactorily clear up the accusations which were made against him: that he undertook the first voyage contrary to law; that he falsified the date of the sailing-licence from Callao; that he attempted to resist the seizure of the vessel; and that the carpenter had attempted to scuttle the vessel, while he and the master were on

board,—these facts appeared to involve so much grave suspicion, that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires did not feel himself authorized to support a claim for damages for detention on trial. Mr. Dempsey made no attempt to clear his conduct from these charges, but brought his vessel to Callao and there sold her.

The forms of law may have produced some unnecessary, though not unusual, delay, in bringing this case to a conclusion; but neither in form nor in substance has there been sufficient cause for a remonstrance to the Peruvian Government.

Her Majesty's Government would not therefore be justified in supporting the claim of the owners of the "Hibernia" for damages against the Peruvian Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 19.

Mr. Wentworth Buller to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

Title Office, April 18, 1851.

I HAVE reason to believe that very large and valuable deposits of guano exist upon two desert islands in the South Pacific. The islands in question are Lobos Afuera, in latitude 6° 59' south, longitude 80° 42' west; and Lobos de Tierra, in latitude 6° 34' south, longitude 80° 45' west. The former of these islands is about 50 miles from the coast of Peru, and the latter about 21. Both are described as destitute of fresh water and without inhabitants. They have been hitherto the constant resort of sealers and whalers of various nations, as well as of Indians who visit them at certain seasons, for the purpose of obtaining the eggs of aquatic birds.

The marketable value of guano being now so well known, and the attention of the Peruvian Government having been for some years actively directed to the subject, it is possible that they may have discovered this guano, and taken possession of these islands within the last few months, but to the best of my knowledge and belief, these deposits are still unknown, and the islands still unoccupied.

Under these circumstances I venture to ask your Lordship's opinion whether, assuming these islands to be still unoccupied, the deposit of guano upon them is not, according to the law of nations, the common property of all mankind?

Taking into consideration the extreme importance of additional and cheaper supplies of guano to the agriculturists of England at the present moment, I venture further to request that your Lordship will cause instructions to be issued to the Admiral in the Pacific to send a ship of war to the Islands of Lobos Afuera and Lobos de Tierra for the purpose of ascertaining whether the said islands are or are not occupied by the Peruvian Government; and in case either of the said islands should not be occupied, then for the purpose of protecting British merchant-ships loading guano at such islands.

It is well known that the South American Republics claim all the dominions that Spain ever claimed in these seas, and I believe the Spanish claims are founded on a bull of Pope Alexander VI, which gave to Ferdinand and Elizabeth and their successors, "omnes insulas et terras firmas, inventas et inveniendas, detectas et detegendas, versus occidentem et meridiem."

Your Lordship is the best judge whether England has ever admitted these claims, or whether they have ever been admitted by other nations. I write under the impression that they have never been admitted, either in theory or practice, and that the right is expressly denied by all the best writers on International Law.

The evidence which I have obtained as to the existence and extent of the deposits on these islands is taken from the voyage of an American sealer, printed and published at New York in 1832. The Islands of

Lobos were visited in 1823, and the following is an extract from the description of them :—

“The Indians sometimes visit these islands in large parties, and frequently stay three or four weeks. They always bring their fresh water with them in their catamarans, as *there is none to be found on these islands*, which are covered with sand, rock, and the *dung of aquatic birds*, the *latter* sufficient to *load thousands of ships*, having been accumulating for untold ages. It is called *guannar* by the Spaniards, and is probably the richest manure in the world.”

It must be recollected that at the period when the above was written guano was not known to the world as an article of commerce, nor was the extraordinary extent of the deposits known to naturalists or historians. Under such circumstances the statement bears upon the face of it the marks of truth and originality ; and I submit that the evidence is conclusive, both as to the existence and the extent of the deposit. The situation also of these islands is peculiarly favourable. Moreover, I can myself bear witness to the remarkable accuracy and truthfulness of the author in similar remarks and details given in different parts of the same work.

I venture to press this matter on your Lordship's attention with the greater earnestness, because I have myself no particular or exclusive interest in it. If, as an agriculturist, I submit to all the disadvantages of Free Trade, it is but just and reasonable that I should expect a share in its advantages, the greatest of which would be the obtaining this most valuable manure at a moderate price ; but I claim nothing exclusive ; on the contrary, that which I ask I ask on the broadest principle of Free Trade.

Time immemorial these islands have been free to the ships of every nation. They have been constantly visited for shelter, for fishing, for sealing, and for the eggs of aquatic birds. The right of taking these things is proved and tacitly admitted by long usage ; and can it be pretended that any nation has a right to the eggs and not to the dung of the same birds ? I claim, then, these islands to be free, not to the British farmer or the British merchant alone, but to all mankind.

I feel much indebted to your Lordship for the attention which you have already bestowed, and the information which you have so kindly supplied ; and I submit my petition with the fullest confidence to your impartial judgment and consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. W. BULLER.

No. 20.

Lord Stanley of Alderley to Mr. Wentworth Buller.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 10, 1851.

I AM directed by Viscount Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ultimo, stating that you have reason to believe that considerable quantities of guano may be obtained from the uninhabited Islands of Lobos Afuera and Lobos de Tierra, situated the one about fifty miles and the other about twenty-one miles from the coast of Peru, and requesting to be informed how far in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, Great Britain would be borne out in claiming, in common with the other nations of the world, the right to appropriate for agricultural purposes the guano to be found on those islands.

I am to state to you in reply, that Lord Palmerston cannot take upon himself to say whether the Islands of Lobos Afuera and Lobos de Tierra belong of right to Peru, or are claimed by Peru as dependencies. His Lordship does not find in the Peruvian Constitutions published after Peru had separated itself from Spain, any mention of those islands as being dependencies of Peru ; but it appears to Lord Palmerston that their proximity to Peru would give to that State a *prima facie* claim to them.

But be this as it may, Lord Palmerston fears that there is no ground upon which the British Government would be justified in claiming for British subjects the right to appropriate at their pleasure the guano to be found on those islands.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

No. 21.

Mr. Wentworth Buller to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 26.)

My Lord,

Tithe Office, March 24, 1852.

IN compliance with your Lordship's desire I have the honour to inclose a statement relative to the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos Afuera, for the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown; I inclose also a copy of a case already submitted to Mr. Wingrove Cooke, together with his opinion; and as he is in possession of all the facts and evidence relative to these islands, and has already turned his attention to the subject, I venture to request that he may be admitted to a conference with the Law Officers on the point.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. WENTWORTH BULLER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Case for opinion of the Law Officers.

VERY large deposits of guano have been discovered upon two uninhabited islands, situated, the one about 50 miles, and the other about 21 miles, from the coast of Peru.

The islands in question are minutely described in an old book of voyages, which will be submitted together with the other evidence in this case.

The description in this book is fully confirmed by a letter from the captain of a ship which at Captain Buller's request has lately visited the islands.

The evidence which is submitted and upon which the British Government are urged to take possession of these islands, is:

1st. That these islands are not claimed as dependencies of Peru in the Peruvian Constitutions published after Peru had separated from Spain.

2nd. That they are remote from the coast of Peru, the nearest part of which is itself a desert.

3rd. That the islands are without fresh water, and without any buildings upon them; and are not in the occupation of any sovereign State.

4th. That no act of sovereignty has been exercised over these islands by any sovereign State.

5th. That they have been indiscriminately visited by the ships of all nations, as well as by Indians in their catamarans.

6th. That the occasional visits by Indians or other erratic tribes is distinctly laid down by Vattel, b. 1, chapter 18, not to be a legal occupation.

Your opinion is requested whether these islands are not still *juris gentium*, and whether they may not by occupancy become the property of any sovereign State?

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Case as to the Guano Islands. Opinion of Mr. Wingrove Cooke.

THE Foreign Office is, I believe, in possession of all the learning relative to the occupation of new or unappropriated islands. Some time since, much negotiation occurred upon the subject of a volcanic island which arose in the Mediterranean; and during that negotiation all the points involved in the present case must have been considered. I have been unable to find these papers; and as the island subsided while the negotiations pended, they would perhaps contain no more than a reference to the authorities. I have therefore looked into the books, and brought together such texts as appear to me to bear upon the case.

These two islands are in the Great Ocean; they are distant twenty miles and upwards from the territory of any sovereign State. No public act of dominion has ever been done upon them; they are without any permanent inhabitant; and they are visited indiscriminately by the ships of all nations. The question is, Do they, *prima facie*, belong to any sovereign State, or can they be made the property of a first occupier, or can they be retained as *juris gentium* against any particular occupancy?

For the principles of international law, we must always ascend to the books of the civil law. It is laid down in the Institutes (*De rerum divisione*, § *Insula* 22), that an island thrown up in the sea is the property of the first occupant: "*Insula quæ in mari nata est occupantis sit nullius enim creditur.*"

It may be gathered, however, from the principles laid down in the Pandects, as to the property of islands made by rivers in their course, that if the sea wherein the island arises should be the property of any sovereign State, the island would become the property of the State which owns the sea.

But can the sea become the property of any State? I believe all writers are agreed that it cannot. Puffendorf, liv. 4, ch. 5, in discussing "*choses qui peuvent entrer en propriété*," while he allows that nations have a right to gulfs and straits upon which their territories lie, denies that the Ocean is susceptible of becoming proper to any people; and Vattel, *De la Mer*, liv. 1, ch. 23, § 291, in illustration of his position that dominion and property are not inseparable in their nature, remarks that the English have never claimed the *property* of the seas, although they have claimed the *empire*.

These islands, therefore, are not the property of any sovereign State. Are they within the dominion or jurisdiction of any sovereign State? If this question were answered in the affirmative, it would not, I conceive, determine that the property of the islands must follow the dominion of the sea in which they are found; but the authorities answer it in the negative.

Upon the subject of maritime jurisdiction, the civil law is almost silent; and the writers upon international law are therefore without their usual source of inspiration.

Some of the elder of these had rather wild notions of the distance of maritime jurisdiction. Baldus speaks of it as extending to sixty miles' distance from the coast, citing, however, a passage in the code which by no means bears him out in his position. Bodin (*De Repub.* ci. ch. 10) extends the distance to thirty leagues, and cites a decision of a Parliament of France in the case of a Duke of Brittany, wherein it was so held. Solorzan (t. 1, liv. 2, ch. 6, n. 22) extends it to a hundred miles. Loccenius thinks that two days' voyage should be the measure.

These writers being without any authority to follow, seem to have followed their own fancies; and, agreeing upon no principle, mutually destroy each other's credit.

All the great expositors of international law are now, however, agreed that the principle which governs maritime dominion is that each sovereign State has dominion over the seas that wash its coasts so far as that State can make its power felt from the land. It is in Bynkershoek (*De Dominio Maris*, cap. 2, § 5) that we first find laid down the position erroneously attributed by Azuni (in his *Droit Maritime de l'Europe*) to Vattel, that

maritime dominion extends to a cannon-shot from the shore. Bynkershoek says, "Quare omnino videtur rectius eo potestatem terræ extendi, quo usque tormenta exploduntur, eatenus quippe cum imperare tum possidere videmur." Valin, in his *Commentary, sur l'Ordonnance de la Marine de France de 1681*" (liv. 5, tit. 1), cites the *Journal of Commerce* of May 1759, for the same doctrine, and states it to be now generally established by the general consent of all nations; and Vattel, although he does not state the same proposition in terms, implies it when he expressly excludes all large bays and straits, such as Hudson's Bay or the Straits of Magellan, from the rule that Sovereign States have dominion over the bays and straits within their own territory; and confines the rule to those which are capable of having their entrances defended from the coast; "une baie dont on peut défendre l'entrée."—Vattel, *De la Mer*, liv. 1, c. 23, § 291.

These authorities seem conclusive to show that by the common law of nations these guano islands are not either the property or within the dominion of any neighbouring State. If there should be any treaty bearing upon this subject, I have not been able to find it; and presume, therefore, the common law of nations is alone applicable.

These islands are therefore now *juris gentium*, unless they have become property by occupancy.

Grotius, liv. 2, ch. 8, § 9, 2, says, "Il a toujours passé pour constant, que les îles, véritablement telles, sont du domaine public;" and the same doctrine has been already quoted from the Institutes of Justinian.

Upon acquiring property in such things, Voet, in his *Commentary on the Pandects*, says (liv. 1, § 1, ff. *De acquiri. possess.*), "Unde et res tales in acquisitione domini junguntur rebus illis quæ terra mari cøloque capiuntur, ac circa quas per naturalem possessionem dominium iis acquiritur, qui primi possessionem apprehenderint, sic ut non intellegantur hæcenus à quoquam fuisse possessæ;" and Voet describes occupation to be "justa apprehensio rerum corporalium, jure gentium communium animo domini facta, per quam id quod nullius est, naturali ratione, primo occupanti conceditur."

That it appears that an intention of appropriation, as well as an actual taking possession, is necessary to render the occupancy valid; and it is well-known law, that in the case of territory the occupancy can only be by or on behalf of some sovereign State.

Now it cannot be contended that the mere visit of passing ships, or the landing of sealers in search of seals, can be such an occupation as is above described.

I am of opinion, therefore, upon the facts stated, that these islands are still *juris gentium*, and that they may by occupancy become the property of any sovereign State.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. WINGROVE COOKE.

2, Brick Court, Temple, July 8, 1851.

No. 22.

Mr. Addington to Mr. Wentworth Buller.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 20, 1852.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ultimo, submitting certain points on which you are anxious to obtain information with regard to the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos Afuera, in the Pacific Ocean; and I am to acquaint you in reply, that Lord Malmesbury regrets that he can give you no further opinion upon this subject than that which was conveyed to you in the letter which Lord Stanley of Alderley addressed to you, by Viscount Palmerston's direction, on the 10th of May last, and in which Lord Malmesbury entirely concurs.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 23.

Messrs. Kirk & Furniss to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 21.)

My Lord,

Liverpool, April 20, 1852.

WE beg your Lordship to excuse our trespassing upon your valuable time, and in troubling your Lordship with the following letter, we beg to say we should not have presumed to do so if we could, from any indirect source, have obtained satisfactory information for our guidance.

There appeared in the "Times" newspaper of the 17th instant*, a

* Extract from the "Times" of April 17, 1852.

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—There have been various vague accounts lately in the public papers relative to the discovery of guano upon some island in the Pacific. Allow me, through the medium of your columns, to put the public in possession of the facts relative to this discovery.

The islands in question are Lobos Afuera, lat. $6^{\circ} 59'$ S., long. $80^{\circ} 42'$ W., and Lobos de Tierra, lat. $6^{\circ} 34'$ S., long. $80^{\circ} 45'$ W.; the first about fifty miles, and the second about twenty miles, from the coast of Peru.

In "Morrell's Four Voyages," a book published at New York in 1832, is a minute account of these islands, and among other particulars the following remarkable passage—"The Indians sometimes visit these islands in large parties on fishing excursions or frolics; and frequently stay three or four weeks. I have always found them to be very civil and accommodating, having frequently received kind offices at their hands, such as presents of fruit, vegetables, &c., from the main. They always bring their fresh water with them in their catamarans, as there is none to be found in the islands, which are covered with sand, rock, and the dung of aquatic birds, the latter sufficient to load thousands of ships, having been accumulating for untold ages. It is called 'guannar' by the Spaniards, and is probably the richest manure in the world."

Captain Morrell visited these islands in September 1823, long before guano was known as an article of commerce, and long before a single ton had been imported into Europe. It appeared to me, therefore, that this passage bore upon the face of it the character of truth, and knowing the value of such a discovery to the shipowners and agriculturists of this country, I at once applied to the Government to take possession of the islands, and under the protection of the British flag, make the export of guano free to the ships of all nations.

By inquiry at the Foreign Office, I ascertained that these islands were not enumerated among the dependencies of Peru, at the time when Peru declared its independence and defined the extent of its territories. They are desert islands, without wood, without water, without habitation. No sovereign State has ever exercised dominion over them. During the whole of the war between Spain and England they had been freely visited by whalers and sealers and ships of all nations, as well as by Indians in their catamarans. I found it distinctly stated in Vattel, b. i., chap. 8, that "all mankind have an equal right to things which have not yet fallen into the possession of any one; and those things belong to the person who first takes possession of them. When, therefore, a nation finds a country uninhabited and without an owner, it may lawfully take possession of it, and after it has sufficiently made known its will in this respect, it cannot be deprived of it by another nation. Thus navigators going on voyages of discovery, furnished with a commission from their Sovereign, and meeting with islands or other lands in a desert state, have taken possession of them in the name of their nation; and this title has been usually respected, provided it was soon after followed by a real possession."

All the best writers on international law supported the same doctrine. I took the opinion of a barrister, in whose judgment I placed the highest confidence, and was assured that the Peruvian Government, not having occupied those islands, could have no legal claim to them.

Under these circumstances I urged upon the Government the immense importance of guano as a manure, the injury sustained by the monopoly of the Peruvian Government, and the claims of the British agriculturists and shipowners to some of the advantages of free trade. But whatever advantage new possessions may bring to agriculturists or shipowners, it seems to have been discovered that they bring nothing but trouble to the Foreign Office, and when the present extent of our empire in different parts of the world is considered, perhaps the disinclination to make even the smallest addition can scarcely be condemned. Suffice it to say, that I did not succeed.

Finding it impossible to prevail upon the Government at once to take possession of the islands, I determined to try what private enterprise might effect. By inquiry in the

letter signed T. Wentworth Buller ; and if the facts be as therein stated, the information is of great value to the agriculturists of this country as well as to the shipowners.

The letter in question refers to certain guano islands termed Lobos Afuera, latitude $6^{\circ} 59'$ south, longitude $80^{\circ} 42'$ west, and Lobos de Tierra, latitude $6^{\circ} 34'$ south, longitude $80^{\circ} 45'$ west.

city, I discovered a shipowner who had for many years commanded a trading vessel in the Pacific. Captain E. Lawson had himself frequently visited the islands, and although he had taken no notice of the nature or extent of the guano-deposit, he could speak confidently of the goodness of the harbour, the multitudes of sea-fowl, and the rainless character of the climate. In every respect, except the extent of the guano-deposit, he confirmed the account given by Morrell. Captain Lawson had a vessel on the point of sailing for San Francisco, and promised that he should touch at Lobos in her way. On the 14th of December, 1851, Captain Dixon, of the ship "Bombay," wrote from San Francisco in the following terms:—"Went to Lobos. The very thing that I have said to you years before this. I think I could load a thousand ships as well as one. Good anchorage. I think at one place I could load with a spout into the ship." At the same time he forwarded a sample of the guano taken from the island.

With this additional evidence I again appealed to the Government, and succeeded in obtaining an assurance that a ship of war should visit the islands. On the change of Ministry I had an interview with Lord Malmesbury, from which I hoped a favourable result, the matter being still under his Lordship's consideration.

In the meantime, it appears that at the instance of Captain Lawson several ships have already sailed for these islands, and also that the Peruvian Minister is acquainted with the fact. The matter, therefore, can no longer remain a secret, and I take this opportunity of laying the whole question before the public, in the full confidence that the agriculturists and shipowners of this country will not suffer such an opportunity to be lost. I fearlessly assert, that according to the Law of Nations, the Peruvian Government can have no claim to these islands. On the other hand, the monopoly of guano now maintained by the Peruvian Government is injurious to the whole civilized world, but especially injurious to the British farmer and British shipowner. They must see that all idea of protection is abandoned. They must feel, that whoever may be Minister, they are equally doomed to suffer all the disadvantages of free trade. It will be their own fault if they do not obtain some of the advantages.

It is commonly supposed that the deposit of guano on the Chincha Islands is sufficient to keep up the supply at the present rate, for 100 years, and, as the whole cost of guano is the expense of freight and loading, there can be no question that, but for the monopoly of the Peruvian Government, it would now be sold in this country at less than 5*l.* a-ton, whereas the present price is 10*l.* Now, I have myself used about 400 tons of guano as manure, and I speak from experience when I say that such are its extraordinary powers, and such the advantages of its light carriage, that with guano at 5*l.* per ton, there is scarcely any land in England so barren that it might not be cultivated with advantage. As a practical farmer I say, that if I had the option between a 5*s.* duty on corn, and free trade in guano, I would not hesitate a moment in preferring the free trade in guano. I believe the deposit upon the Lobos Islands to be even larger than the deposit on the Chincha. The islands themselves are many times more extensive, and from the description of the deposit and the swarms of birds, they would also appear to be more extensive.

The price of freight from Chincha to this country has lately been quoted as low as 30*s.* per ton. The multitudes of ships from San Francisco can literally get no freights. Guano is an article (perhaps the only one which can be mentioned) in which the whole cost is the freight and loading—an article of almost boundless consumption—an article in which free trade would be of more importance to shipowners than any other that can be named.

The question is, whether they and the agriculturists are content to suffer all the disadvantages of free trade without partaking in its advantages? If not, let them bestir themselves, and who can refuse such a boon? What is it that is required? Not a costly possession; not an expensive colony? No; all that can be needed is a single sloop of war which shall hoist the British flag, and under the protection of that flag permit the ships of every nation to load guano without disturbance. I repeat, this is a desert island—not a tree, not a house, not a drop of water upon it; a harbour in which hundreds of ships may ride in perfect safety; but hitherto useless, or visited only by sealers for its seals, or whalers for the eggs of aquatic birds. No nation has ever hoisted its flag upon it, and it remains unappropriated, the common property of all mankind.

If the claim of the Peruvian Government to these islands be admitted, it will be solely attributable to the apathy of the agriculturists and shipowners of this country.

I cannot close this letter without expressing the admiration which I feel for that intelligent American seaman to whom we are indebted not only for the discovery of the guano on these islands, but for the discovery of the deposit on the Island of Ichaboe.

Benjamin Morrell was the captain of an American sealer, in which character he made four voyages, exploring all the desert coasts and islands in different quarters of the globe. To undaunted energy in his profession he added a spirit of inquiry which is but rarely

We are dispatching to the west coast of South America within the next ten days three ships of large size, say about 1000 tons each, and we are anxious to give the masters instructions to search for cargoes of guano on some of those islands.

The questions, however, upon which we have some doubts, and upon which we wish to be satisfied, are, do the islands in question belong to the Peruvian Government? Or, can we receive an assurance from your Lordship, that British shipowners have the right to take cargoes from those islands without being interfered with by any foreign Power?

The letter of Mr. Buller leads us to suppose that a ship of war would be sent out to those islands (we suppose to afford protection), or at all events that the matter was under the consideration of your Lordship.

In the present depressed state of the shipping interest it would afford some encouragement; to shipowners to be assured of the protection of the British Government; and we need not refer to the benefit the agriculturist will derive by an opening out of this branch of trade as speedily as possible.

We remain, &c.
(Signed) KIRK & FURNESS.

No. 24.

Captain Hamond to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 22.)

My Lord,

Freshwater, Isle of Wight, April 20, 1852.

I HAVE to apologise to your Lordship for thus intruding upon your valuable time.

My only reason for doing so is a wish to draw your Lordship's attention to a letter which appeared in the "Times" of the 17th instant, signed "T. Wentworth Buller," which has reference to the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos d'Afuera, on the coast of Peru, situated in latitude respectively of 6° 20' S., and 6° 55' S., and longitude 80° 45' W., and which I am afraid may embroil the captains of our merchant-ships in the Pacific, in, according to my humble opinion, a very unjustifiable act of aggression on the property of a friendly Power, unless a disavowal from Her Majesty's Government should appear in time to counteract it.

Mr. Wentworth Buller's argument in his letter is this: namely, that the said Islands of Lobos (inner) and Lobos (outer) are not the property of the Peruvian Nation; and that because they are uninhabited and covered with guano, that we, and any other nation of the world, have a right to send our ships there, and take in cargoes of the "precious deposit," without asking permission from anybody to do so.

seen. In the countries which he visited he seems to have considered nothing which could be useful to mankind unworthy of his attention. That he was no common observer is sufficiently attested by the fact that, although from time immemorial whalers and sealers of different nations have visited these islands, and though a British surveying ship, regularly equipped for the service, has examined them, yet it is to Captain Benjamin Morrell that the world is indebted for the information that these islands possess one of the finest harbours in the world, and thousands of vessels may load with guano from its shores.

"Morrell's Four Voyages" may be found on the shelves of the Royal Geographical Society, to which useful institution I am indebted for my acquaintance with the work. At page 119 will be seen a description of Lobos, and at page 294 an accurate description of Ichaboe, with a statement that "the surface of this island is covered with birds' manure to the depth of twenty-five feet." Upon the information given in this book, the first ships sailed from England to load at Ichaboe. The discovery of Ichaboe lowered the price of Peruvian guano from 20*l.* to 10*l.* per ton, and by bringing this valuable manure into general use, conferred a lasting benefit on the civilized world.

I am, &c.

T. WENTWORTH BULLER.

Whimble, Exeter, April 14.

It is upon this point that I wish to address your Lordship, and to point out what I foresee will be the inevitable consequences of this line of conduct on the part of the captains of our merchant-ships in carrying out the advice contained in Mr. Wentworth Buller's letter.

In the first place, I would most respectfully remark, as an old cruizer in the Pacific, and well acquainted with the coasts of Peru, having commanded ships there on different occasions for many years, that the undoubted right of the Peruvian Nation to the possession of the Lobos Islands is unquestionable; and I never heard that a doubt was entertained on the subject until I read Mr. Wentworth Buller's letter in the "Times."

The Lobos Inner and Lobos Outer Islands form two distinct groups off the coast of Peru, situated at the distance respectively of 10 miles and 35 miles off shore, instead of 20 miles and 50 miles, as stated in Mr. Wentworth Buller's letter, having a clear passage between them of 25 miles, through which I have passed.

There is good anchorage on both sides of the inner group, and on the northern side of the outer islands; both roadsteads, however, are subject to the long ocean swell, which always sets in along the whole coast of Peru, and at times, during the full and change of the moon, with terrific violence.

The islands are constantly frequented by the inhabitants of the coast and of the town of Lambayeque, which lies opposite to them, in small vessels and catamarans, the latter of a very large size, for the purpose of sealing, fishing, and removing the guano, which the Peruvians have for centuries used as manure, and the value of which they are acquainted with quite as well as ourselves; hence it is not to be supposed that they will view the forcible removal of this "mine of wealth" by the vessels of a friendly nation in any other light than both as illegal and, I may add, piratical.

The sequences of such a line of conduct on our part may lead to similar proceedings on other parts of the coast. Mr. Wentworth Buller, if an old stationer out there, must be fully aware of the existence of several other groups of islands between Lobos and Callao, situated at different degrees of distance from the shore, all, I believe abounding in guano, and, as far as I know to the contrary, uninhabited, except at times, for the same reason as I have before stated with respect to the Lobos Group. The names of the other groups are, the "Malabrigo Islets," the "Guañape Islands," the "Chao Islands," the "Huara Islands," and the "Hormigas," which latter group are quite as far off the coast as the Outer Lobos.

Surely, my Lord, it would hardly be an act of justice on the part of such a powerful nation as our own, to give any countenance to a proceeding that might lead to the most lamentable results?

I will exemplify my meaning to your Lordship by recounting an event that happened whilst I was left as senior officer on the coasts of Peru and Chili during the year 1843.

Whilst lying at Valparaiso in the ship I commanded, I was given to understand that the captain of one of the English merchant-vessels then in the port had given out amongst his countrymen, that he intended to take his vessel down to the Chincha Islands, on the coast of Peru, and take in a cargo of guano there in despite of the Peruvian authorities. In a conversation that I happened to have with this person, a man, by the way, of the most reckless and daring character, I mentioned to him the report that I had heard relative to his intended proceedings, and strongly advised him by no means to make the attempt. Unfortunately he took no notice of my warning, and the following lamentable history was the result.

Having done his utmost to induce other merchant captains then in the port to follow his pernicious example, happily without any success, to the best of my recollection, he sailed for the coast of Peru, and, having armed his crew, moored his ship alongside the islands, and at once commenced his plundering. The Peruvian authorities at Pisco, opposite to the islands (which lie off shore about 10 or 15 miles), took due notice

of the vessel's proceedings, and prepared to counteract them by force. Arming three or four launches with guns and men, they embarked their forces in the middle of the night, and having reached the islands before daylight without the master or crew of the English ship being aware of their approach, they proceeded at once to take possession of the heights, and having waited till the crew had commenced loading the vessel, they advanced to the edge of the cliffs, and making prisoners of the men employed at their work, called upon the captain to surrender his vessel. This the captain refused to do, and a desperate affray ensued, in which he was severely wounded and made prisoner, together with the remainder of the crew, and the ship was taken possession of by the Peruvian officers. The case was tried before the tribunals at Lima, and the ship was condemned as a lawful prize. The captain and crew, after undergoing a short imprisonment, were set at liberty.

The end of this miserable man deserves to be recorded. Having returned to Valparaiso, of course penniless and homeless, accompanied by his son, a youth of fourteen or fifteen, he managed to ingratiate himself with a worthy, honest-hearted Scot, of the name of Mackensie, commander of a fine ship on the point of sailing for England, and telling him an artful tale of his woes and losses, succeeded in inducing him to grant both himself and son a passage (*gratis*) home. Little did the poor fellow know what a desperate villain he was harbouring. On the passage home this monster in human form, having found out that a considerable freight was on board, decided upon murdering his benefactor and taking possession of the ship. For this purpose he gained over a portion of the crew to assist him in carrying out his wicked design; and in the dead of the night, watching his opportunity, he stabbed the man at the wheel to the heart, and having flung him over the side, he shouted out to the captain, who was asleep in his cabin, to come upon deck, as a man, he said, had fallen overboard. The poor captain, suspecting no evil, jumped upon deck in his shirt, and as he did so, this monster struck him on the head with an axe as he ascended the companion-ladder, and after a death struggle, the captain was overpowered and likewise thrown overboard. The vessel now being in the hands of the mutineers, all those who would not take the oath of secrecy were at once dispatched, and their bodies thrown into the sea. Apparently reckless as to consequences, this depraved villain now assumed the most despotic sway over the rest of his confederates in crime, and ruled them with ungovernable brutality. This was too much to be borne, and the men, having watched their time, seized him when asleep, bound him and his son back and back together, and threw them alive into the sea. The mutineers navigated the ship to the neighbourhood of Halifax, N.S., where they run her ashore, and dispersed themselves over the country. Circumstances most providentially were brought to light which enabled the authorities at Halifax to discover the crime of which these miserable men had been guilty, and I believe they all expiated their guilt upon the gallows.

Such, my Lord, was the fatal result of the misconduct of the captain of an English merchant-ship in attempting to take a cargo of guano from one of the islands off the coast of Peru without permission of the authorities.

Fearful that like consequences might ensue, and that valuable lives may be lost in following the advice contained in Mr. Wentworth Buller's letter, I have considered it my duty as an officer in Her Majesty's Navy, to make your Lordship acquainted with these facts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDW. SNAPE HAMOND,
Captain, R.N.

P.S.—The name of the ship that was captured by the Peruvian authorities was the "Vitula;" her captain's name was Fielding. The name of the last-mentioned ship was the "Saladin."

A. S. H.

No. 25.

Mr. Allan Edward to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 22.)

My Lord,

Dundee, April 20, 1852.

IN consequence of information and encouragement which I received from Captain E. Lawson, I lately fitted out and dispatched some vessels for the Island Lobos Afuera, off the coast of Peru, to load guano for this country. A few days ago I was surprised to hear that the Peruvian Government through their Chargé d'Affaires in London, had laid claim to the island, and threatened to prevent any vessels taking guano therefrom.

Under these circumstances I take the liberty of appealing to your Lordship, and of inquiring if any vessels, in case of their being interfered with by the Peruvian Government, will receive the protection of the Government of this country; and whether any British ships of war have been, or will be dispatched for the safety of British vessels resorting to the aforesaid island?

May I beg the favour of an early answer to this communication, as the nature of that answer will greatly regulate me in the proceedings to be adopted for the security of my vessels.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALLAN EDWARD.

No. 26.

Mr. Lidgett to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 23.)

My Lord,

9, Billiter Street, April 22, 1852.

IT having been ascertained that fresh deposits of guano have been discovered in the Pacific, the islands being Lobos Afuera and Lobos de Tierra, the former in latitude $6^{\circ} 59'$ south, longitude $80^{\circ} 42'$ west; the latter in latitude $6^{\circ} 34'$ south, longitude $30^{\circ} 45'$ west; and it having been stated that the said islands are the property of no nation or individual in particular, but common to all; I take the liberty of asking your Lordship whether such is the fact, and whether any shipowner sending vessels thither would be right in doing so, and not infringe the laws of any State or people? Can your Lordship inform me whether any of Her Majesty's vessels have proceeded thither to guard the island and protect the British interests, or whether it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to do so? Having a ship on the western coast of America that has been for some time unemployed, the discovery in question is at present one of great moment to me, as well as to numbers of British shipowners, who are now feeling deeply the late changes made in our commercial policy.

Trusting that this consideration will be sufficient apology for my troubling your Lordship,

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LIDGETT.

No. 27.

*Mr. Rankin to the Earl of Derby.—(Received April 24.)**Shipowners' Association, Liverpool,
April 21, 1852.*

My Lord,

AS Chairman of the Liverpool Shipowners' Association, I have been requested by that body respectfully to call your Lordship's attention to the recent discovery, in the Pacific Ocean, of two islands called Lobos Afuera and Lobos de Tierra, and upon which islands there are immense deposits of guano.

The Association have been informed that these are desert islands, and have not yet been claimed by any foreign State.

I need not impress upon your Lordship the great value the guano on these islands would be of to this nation, as affording vast employment to our shipping, now so greatly depressed; but also as a certain means of reducing the price of guano, which would be a boon of inestimable value to the agriculturists of this country.

On the 13th instant I addressed a letter to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty upon the subject, of which I inclose your Lordship a copy, and also, as it may save your Lordship some trouble, I inclose a copy of the reply.

Since the above correspondence took place, a letter has appeared in the London "Times" of the 17th instant, page 8, signed "T. Wentworth Buller," containing a very particular account of the above islands, of which letter I would solicit your Lordship's perusal.

The Shipowners' Association feel confident that your Lordship will direct every step to be taken, consistent with the Law of Nations, to obtain the benefit of the discovery of those islands for this country, in common with other nations, or if they belong, as has been suggested, to Peru, then that your Lordship will take into your immediate consideration the expediency of endeavouring to negotiate a treaty, under which this country may be enabled to avail itself, on the most favourable terms, of the guano on the islands.

An apology is due to your Lordship for trespassing on your time, now so fully occupied by matters of great national importance, but the Association fear that any delay in the endeavour to secure the advantages of the Lobos Islands to this country, may be most injurious; and they feel assured that your Lordship will consider their anxiety on the subject a sufficient apology for addressing you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT RANKIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 27.

*Mr. Rankin to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.**Shipowners' Association, Liverpool,
April 13, 1852.*

My Lords,

AS Chairman of the Liverpool Shipowners' Association, I have been requested to inquire from you whether any instructions having for their object the affording protection to British ships loading guano at the recently discovered guano island in the Pacific, have been given to Her Majesty's Naval commanders on the west coast of America; and whether British ships so loading may rely upon the protection of our Government from interference by Peru, or any other Power claiming a territorial right to such island?

I am informed that several members of this Association are engaged in sending out ships to load guano at the above island; and it is of the utmost importance that they should know their position and security as regards such trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT RANKIN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Rankin.

Sir,

Admiralty, April 14, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to inform you, in reply to your letter, that the Admiral in the Pacific has orders to afford protection to British legal commerce; but no specific directions have been given with regard to vessels loading with guano.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

No. 28.

*Mr. Addington to Messrs. Kirk & Furniss.**

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, April 26, 1852.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, and I am to acquaint you in reply, that his Lordship is unable to state whether the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Afuera belong of right to any foreign nation. But as they certainly do not belong to Great Britain, and as the British Government have no intention of claiming them as British property, Her Majesty's Government do not contemplate sending any of Her Majesty's ships of war to those islands with a view to guard them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 29.

Mr. Cardwell, M.P., to the Earl of Malmesbury.

20, Fludyer Street, Thursday, April 29, 1852.

MR. CARDWELL presents his compliments to the Earl of Malmesbury, and takes the liberty of representing to his Lordship that he has been desired by Mr. Graves, one of his constituents, to solicit the honour of an interview,† in the course, if it be practicable, of this day, and if not, on some convenient day in the ensuing week, upon the subject of the inclosed letter addressed to his Lordship by Mr. Rankin, the Chairman of the Shipowners' Association at Liverpool.

* A similar letter sent on the same day to Mr. Allan Edward and to Mr. Lidgett.

† Interview appointed for same day, before 5 P.M.

Inclosure in No. 29.

Mr. Rankin to the Earl of Malmesbury.

*Shipowners' Association, Liverpool,
April 27, 1852.*

My Lord,

AS Chairman of the Liverpool Shipowners' Association, I have been requested by the Committee of that body to take the opportunity of addressing you by the bearer of this, Mr. Samuel R. Graves, an influential member of the Association, respecting the recently-discovered guano islands in the Pacific, called the Lobos Islands; and to express to you the great anxiety which the Association feels as to the result of any communications between Her Majesty's Government and the Representatives in England of Peru, respecting the participation of this country in the guano trade at the islands, as the Association are informed that a considerable amount of British shipping has been sent out in the expectation of being enabled to load guano there.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT RANKIN.

No. 30.

Mr. Addington to Captain Hamond.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 5, 1852.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo, containing information respecting the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Afuera, in the Pacific Ocean; and I am to convey to you his Lordship's thanks for that communication.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 31.

Mr. Rae to Sir John Pakington.

*Aberdeen Town and County Bank,
Ellon, May 4, 1852.*

Sir,

BEING considerably engaged in the trade in Peruvian guano, and having been informed that guano has lately been discovered on an island named Lobos de Tierra, in latitude 6° 59' south, longitude 80° 45' west, about fifty miles from the coast of Peru, I will feel obliged by your informing me if I will be protected by the British Government, in sending out vessels to that island to load guano.

As I do not find that island enumerated in the list of Peruvian possessions, I presume it is open to the world the same as Ichaboe was; but before chartering vessels I wish to make certain of this, and will feel obliged by your giving me an answer as soon as you can.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN RAE.

No. 32.

M. de Rivero to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 6.)

Excelentísimo Señor,

Londres, 4 de Mayo de 1852.

DESPUES de la conversacion que tuve ayer con vuestra Excelencia en la entrevista que me hizo el honor de concederme, abrigo la confianza de que habrá quedado satisfecho en virtud de las esplicaciones francas que le dí acerca de las Islas de Lobos y de los documentos que le puse á la vista.

Como ya informé á vuestra Excelencia verbalmente, las Islas de Lobos de Tierra y Lobos de Fuera encierran cierta cantidad de huano, aunque muchísimo mas pequeña que lo que se ha querido hacer creer al público, y pertenecen al Peru al presente, como pertenecieron antes á la Peninsula Española que dominó aquellas regiones, resultando que cada seccion Hispano-Americana ha entrado á poseer aquella parte del territorio que corresponde á su latitud y á su longitud. En cuanto á las Islas de Lobos, sucede casualmente que la denominada de "Lobos de Fuera," sin embargo de estar colocada á mas distancia de nuestra costa que la de Lobos de Tierra, se halla en longitud menos occidental. Ambas islas pueden verse facilmente por cualquiera embarcacion que navegue por el espacio que las separa, rumbo que por lo regular toman casi todos los buques que hacen el comercio del cabotaje en aquella parte de la costa del Peru, y aun por las embarcaciones extranjeras que navegan del Callao á Paita y Guayaquil, ó *vice versá*. Por esta razon, bien se persuadirá vuestra Excelencia de que las Islas de Lobos, que no son mas que desiertos y áridos peñascos, hoy de alguna importancia por el huano que encierran, han debido ser conocidas por los navegantes desde el tiempo de la conquista que hizo Francisco Pizarro del imperio de los Incas. Es por lo mismo algo extraño que quiera atribuirse su descubrimiento á principios de este siglo por algunos, y al año de 1832 por otros.

Yo no habria molestado á vuestra Excelencia con las esplicaciones que le dí de palabra ni con la presente comunicacion, si este asunto no hubiera sido ya agitado en la prensa de este pais, con ignorancia absoluta de los hechos y de los antecedentes. Nosotros ocupamos y usamos las Islas de Lobos de Tierra y Lobos de Fuera, porque *bonâ fide* las hemos considerado y las consideramos siempre nuestras. Desde tiempo inmemorial han acostumbrado los Indios Peruanos ir á esos parajes para hacer la pezca de lobos, matar pájaros, y recojer huevos, llevando en sus canoas crecida carga de estos objetos á la Ciudad de Lambayeque, y otros puntos de la costa. Allí han tenido siempre establecidas sus cabañas y demas pequeñas habitaciones, siendo en ellos tan inveterada esa costumbre, que a pesar de los reglamentos y decretos espeditos por el Gobierno hace mas de diez años prohibiendolo, con el objeto de que no se destruyan y ahuyenten las aves marinas que producen el huano, hoy mismo no dejan los pescadores de visitar esos parajes adonde no pueden ir á cargar huano ni las naves extranjeras para la esportacion, ni las nacionales para el consumo de la agricultura del pais. Bajo este aspecto ocupamos y usamos las Islas de Lobos de Fuera y Lobos de Tierra.

Pero hay mas todavia como lo comprueban los documentos y planos topográficos que he tenido el honor de poner delante de los ojos de vuestra Excelencia. Desde que el Gobierno del Peru conoció que el huano se hacia un artículo de esportacion, trató de cerciorarse de la cantidad que probablemente podria existir en los varios depósitos, con la mira de acallar el clamor de los agricultores nacionales que podian mirar mal la salida de este artículo tan indispensable para la agricultura del pais. Al efecto me comisionó para examinar y medir estos depósitos. Asi lo verifiqué con los de Chipana, Huanillos, Punta de Lobos, Pabellon de Pica, y las Islas de Chíncha. El resultado de mis observaciones aparece consignado en una memoria publicada en 1845, que tambien tuve el honor de someter á la inspeccion de vuestra Excelencia, y en la que menciono las Islas de Lobos de Tierra y Lobos de Fuera como formando parte de nuestros

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depósitos del norte, que son mucho menos considerables que los de Chincha y del sur.

No habiendo podido continuar mi visita, fue mandado por mi Gobierno el ingeniero, Don Eduardo Cater, que examinó y midió las pequeñas Islas de Guañape, Malabrigo, Santa, Ferrol, San Martin, Marzoque, el Pelado, las Islas Pescadoras, las Islas Hormigas, y por último las Islas de Lobos de Tierra, que encierran la isla principal, la Punta Corcobada, la Isla Bermeja, la Isla Felix Gonzalez, la Isla Colorada, así como también la Isla de Lobos de Fuera. Vuestra Excelencia ha visto los planos topográficos de estos terrenos, resultando de su inspeccion que solo una pequeña parte de aquellas localidades por hallarse mas abrigadas de los vientos, es la que encierra depósitos de huano. Casualmente conservo en mi poder la memoria en copia manuscrita de Don Eduardo Cater, de la que he estraído y vertido al Frances, lo principal que se refiere á estas islas.

Temiendo cansar demasiado la atencion de vuestra Excelencia, solo agregaré que tan luego como llegó á mi noticia lo que se pretendia por algunos especuladores, adelantando que las islas en cuestion eran abandonadas y desiertas, sin reclamarse por nacion alguna, juzgué conveniente precaucionar al público en general, y á los navieros en particular, por medio de la notificacion que adjunto en copia.

Dichas islas deben estar marcadas en todas las cartas antiguas ; pero segun las mas recientes del distinguido Capitan Fitzroy, la Isla de Lobos de Tierra se encuentra como á doce millas de la costa, y la de Lobos de Fuera como á cuarenta y una millas aunque en longitud menos occidental.

Confianto en que vuestra Excelencia querrá admitir las anteriores y sencillas esplicaciones con la imparcialidad que lo caracteriza, concluyo rogandole se sirva aceptar, &c.

(Firmado)

FRANCO. DE RIVERO.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

London, May 4, 1852.

AFTER the conversation which I had with your Excellency yesterday in the interview which you did me the honour to grant, I cherish the confidence that you will have been satisfied by the candid explanations which I furnished to you in reference to the Islands of Lobos and to the documents which I laid before you.

As I have already informed your Excellency verbally, the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera contain a certain quantity of guano, although very much less than it has been thought proper to make the public believe; and they now belong to Peru, as they formerly belonged to the Spanish Peninsula, which held dominion over those countries, because each section of Spanish America entered into possession of that part of the territory which corresponds with its latitude and its longitude. With respect to the Islands of Lobos, it casually happens that the one called "Lobos de Fuera," although situated at a greater distance from our coasts than that of Lobos de Tierra, is in a less western longitude. Both islands may be easily seen by any vessel navigating the space which divides them, a course which is taken generally by almost all the vessels engaged in the coasting trade on that part of the coast of Peru, and even by foreign vessels sailing from Callao to Paita and Guayaquil, or *vice versa*. For this reason your Excellency will be fully convinced that the Islands of Lobos, which are nothing but desert and arid rocks, become now of some importance from the guano which is found upon them, must have been known to navigators from the time when Francis Pizarro conquered the empire of the Incas. It is therefore somewhat strange that some persons would attribute their discovery to the commencement of the present century, and others to the year 1832.

I would not have troubled your Excellency with the explanations which I gave to you personally, nor with the present communication, if this matter had not been already taken up by the press of this country, in the absolute ignorance of facts and of previous circumstances. We

occupy and use the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera, because we have always *bonâ fide* considered them, and do consider them to be ours. From time immemorial the Peruvian Indians have been accustomed to go to those parts to get lobos [sort of seal], to kill birds, and get eggs, carrying considerable cargoes of these articles to the town of Lambayeque and other places on the coast. They have always had their huts and other little habitations established there; this habit being so inveterate in them, that in spite of the repeated regulations and decrees of the Government, made more than ten years ago to prohibit it, in order that the birds which produce guano may not be destroyed or driven away, the fishers to this very day do not cease to visit those parts where foreign ships cannot go to load guano for exportation, nor native ships for the agricultural consumption of the country. Under this aspect we do occupy and use the Islands of Lobos de Fuera and Lobos de Tierra.

But there is yet more to be said, as is proved by the documents and maps which I had the honour to submit to your Excellency. As soon as the Government of Peru was aware that guano had become an article of exportation, it proceeded to make inquiries as to the amount which might probably exist in the various deposits, with the object of silencing the clamour of the native farmers, who might be displeased to see this article exported, which is so indispensable for the agriculture of the country. In fact they commissioned me to examine and measure those deposits; this I effected with the deposits of Chipana, Huanillos, Punta de Lobos, Pabellon de Pica, and the Chincha Islands. The result of my observations appears embodied in a memoir, which I also had the honour to submit to the inspection of your Excellency, and in which I mention the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera as forming a part of our northern deposits, which are much less considerable than those of Chincha and of the south.

Not having been able to prolong my examination, the engineer Mr. Edward Cater was sent by my Government; he examined and measured the little Islands of Guañape, Malabrigo, Santa, Ferrol, San Martin, Marzoque, el Pelado, the Pescadores, the Hormigas, and lastly, the Islands of Lobos de Tierra, which comprise the Isla Principal, the Punta Corcobada, the Isla Bermeja, the Felix Gonzalez, and the Isla Colorada, as well as the Island of Lobos de Fuera. Your Excellency has seen the topographical plans of these territories, and it is found from his survey, that it is only a small part of these localities which, in consequence of being more sheltered from the winds, contain deposits of guano. I have accidentally kept in my possession a manuscript copy of the memoir of Mr. Edward Cater, out of which I have extracted and translated into French the principal part which refers to these islands.

In the fear of wearying your Excellency's attention too much, I will only add that so soon as I heard of the pretensions of certain speculators, who stated that the islands in question were abandoned and desert, without being claimed by any nation whatever, I thought proper to caution the public in general, and shipowners in particular, by means of the notification, a copy of which I inclose.

The above islands must be inserted in all the old maps; but in the most recent charts of the distinguished Captain Fitzroy, the Island of Lobos de Tierra is placed at twelve miles from the coast, and that of Lobos de Fuera at forty-one miles, although its west longitude is not so great.

Trusting that your Excellency will admit the above simple explanations with your characteristic impartiality, I conclude, asking you to receive the assurances, &c.

(Signed)

FRAN^{co}. DE RIVERO.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Official Notification.

*Peruvian Legation,
London, April 21, 1852.*

IT having been publicly stated that the islands called the Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera, containing guano beds, are desert islands, and have never been claimed by any nation, the Peruvian Legation in London feels called upon to make the following statement, as a caution to owners of vessels and others :—

1. The aforesaid Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera, opposite the Province of Lambayeque, in the Department of Libertad, have been known ever since the discovery of the west coast of South America by the Spaniards, to whom they belonged; and they now form part of the several deposits of guano situated between the latitude of the River Loa and that of Tumbes, which are in the possession of the Republic of Peru.

2. By virtue of decrees now in force, no vessel, either under the national or any foreign flag, has a right to go to the Peruvian guano deposits, without first obtaining permission from the Peruvian Government, under penalty of confiscation.

3. Foreign vessels, furnished with Government licences, are allowed to load at the Chincha Islands only.

4. The before-mentioned Islands of Lobos de Fuera and Lobos de Tierra, as well as those of Guañape, Malabrigo, and other localities north of Callao, where deposits of guano exist, as also some of the southern deposits in the Province of Tarapaca, are purposely kept uninhabited and unfrequented by order of the Government, in order that the birds may be left undisturbed, and thus a constant increase of the deposits be promoted.

5. From time immemorial the fishermen of Lambayeque have been accustomed to inhabit the Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera, but for some years past the Peruvian Government have prohibited their so doing, in consequence of their destroying thousands of birds, and bringing away boat-loads of eggs to the villages of Lambayeque, San Pedro, and other places on the coast.

6. Since the commencement of the export of guano to Europe, all the deposits belonging to the Republic of Peru have been surveyed and measured by orders of the Government; and amongst these are enumerated the Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera, within the jurisdiction of the Department of Libertad, formerly called Trujillo.

7. There exist in the archives of the Peruvian Legation in London particulars of the measurements and calculations made some years since with a view to ascertain the quantity of guano on the Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera.

8. Finally, any attempt to load vessels without the proper licence, would subject them to be seized by the Government vessels appointed to cruise off and visit the different guano deposits, in order to prevent not only the illegal extraction of guano by foreign trading-vessels, but also to prevent the natives of Peru from violating the Government orders against visiting those localities, and destroying or disturbing the birds.

(Signed) EMILIO DE ALTHAUS,
First Attaché to the Legation and Vice-Consul.

No. 33.

M. de Rivero to the Earl of Malmesbury.

4 de Mayo de 1852.

M. DE RIVERO tiene el honor de saludar respetuosamente á su Excelencia Lord Malmesbury, y con referencia á la comunicacion que con esta fecha le ha dirigido sobre las Islas de Lobos, le incluye ahora tres números de un periódico Ministerial de Lima, y que allí se considera como semi-oficial. Bajo los auspicios del Señor Ministro de Hacienda, se está reimprimiendo en aquella capital, un folleto titulado "Estudios sobre el Huano," del que aparecen reproducidos algunos fragmentos. Los datos que contiene esa publicacion estan basados ó sacados de la Memoria que M. de Rivero publicó en 1845 por orden de su Gobierno, y de las investigaciones del ingeniero Cater, que visitó en 1847, y por encargo de la autoridad Peruana, las huaneras del norte.

M. de Rivero reitera, &c.

(Translation.)

May 4, 1852.

M. DE RIVERO has the honour to present his respectful compliments to his Excellency Lord Malmesbury, and with reference to the communication which he has this day addressed to him in relation to the Islands of Lobos, he now forwards three numbers of a ministerial paper published at Lima, which is considered there as semi-official. A pamphlet entitled "Considerations upon Guano" is being reprinted in that city under the auspices of the Minister of Finance, some portions of which are reproduced. The data comprised in that publication are based upon or derived from the Memoir published by M. de Rivero in 1845, at the commands of his Government, and the investigations of the Engineer Cater, who in 1847 visited the guano-deposits of the north, being commissioned by the Peruvian authorities.

M. de Rivero repeats, &c.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Extracts from "El Interprete del Pueblo."—Lima, January 23, 26, 27, 1852.

Estudios sobre el Huano.

AL celo patriótico con que el Benemérito Señor General encargado del Despacho de Hacienda favorece y promueve cuanto puede contribuir de algun modo al bienestar del pais, y á la suma benevolencia con que ha visto nuestros ensayos literarios, es debida una segunda edicion de los "Estudios sobre el Huano," que actualmente está bajo la prensa. Este trabajo tiene por objeto, reunir en un solo cuerpo, todos los documentos de importancia que tienen relacion con el abono que dá al tesoro nacional tan cuantiosos auxilios; y como en él figuran nuevas indagaciones y nuevos datos que no conoce el público, creemos que mirará con agrada la insercion de algunos fragmentos en las columnas de este diario.*

I.

Naturaleza del Huano—Tiempo probablemente necesario para la formacion de las Islas de Chíncha—Aves que producen el Huano—Destrucion que hacen los Indios de estas aves—Sistema observado en la materia por los Incas—Causas de la superioridad del Huano del Perú sobre los demas huanos conocidos—Nuevas aplicaciones de Huano.

Antes que la naturaleza del huano fuese bastante conocida entre nosotros, se creyó por algunos que esta sustancia era de origen mineral y por consiguiente inagotable; mas despues de una atenta observacion y

* La clasificacion de los pájaros huaneros la debemos al caballeroso comedimiento del Señor Raimondi, profesor de Historia Natural en el Colejio de la Independencia.

de los trabajos de la ciencia, ya no es lícito bajo ningún aspecto conservar tal idea.

De dos modos se puede demostrar que el huano es fruto de la esccrementación de las aves marinas: por hechos físicos que hieren inmediatamente los sentidos, y por las revelaciones analíticas.

Ocupándonos de los primeros, encontramos que las acumulaciones de huano jamás se hallan en tierras interiores, sino en las costas, y más ordinariamente en el mar, fenómeno que no se verifica con las minas esparcidas, como todos saben, en distintas regiones. Luego tenemos que en el fondo de las capas espesas de este abono, se hallan constantemente esqueletos de pájaros y peces, huevos y otros despojos orgánicos, pulverizados en el todo ó en parte; que las capas de huano común se alternan con capas de huano de lobo, lo que demuestra que simultánea ó alternativamente, se han cubierto las islas con animales diferentes; y por último, que hoy se ve huano sobre rocas paladas en donde antes no había de él ni remotos vestigios. La Isla de Santa, situada á los 9° 11' latitud sur, según las relaciones que los habitantes de la costa inmediata hicieron á Mr. Carter, estaba, ahora quince ó veinte años completamente desnuda, y á la fecha contiene algunas toneladas. La de San Martín, que se eleva á los 14° 4' latitud sur, á la vista del pueblo de Bégueta en la Provincia de Chancay, fué centro de un extenso hospital, en donde se medicinaban los enfermos del Ejército Libertador el año de 1821; entonces no contenía huano, y ahora encierra una pequeña cantidad. A todos estos comprobantes se agrega la opinión popular de los indígenas, quienes, juzgando la materia esentos de las prevenciones que engendran siempre los sistemas, le han atribuido origen animal á la sustancia con que fertilizan sus tierras. Ni podía suceder de otro modo, desde que veían nubes inmensas de diferentes pájaros acumular en las islas sus basuras, de modo, que á lo lejos, representaban "nevadas sierras," según la expresión de Garcilaso; basuras que, siendo blancas al principio, cambiaban á su presencia de color por la fermentación de sus bases y por la acción de los agentes exteriores. Si en vista de las enormes moles de las Islas de Chíncha, llegase á ser difícil concebir como han podido formarse estas con materiales en apariencia tan exigüos, en el siguiente cálculo del Señor Rivero se hallará una satisfactoria explicación:

"Suponiendo, nos dice, en estos depósitos diez y ocho millones de toneladas con peso de trescientos sesenta millones de quintales, nos da esta suma la de quinientos sesenta y seis mil millones de onzas de peso. Ahora bien: no es exagerado admitir que cada pájaro deposite una onza de excremento diario: del diluvio á nuestros días van corridos cerca de seis mil años, ó lo que es lo mismo, dos millones ciento noventa mil días. Dividiendo el número de onzas por el de días, se tendrá que ha bastado para las portentosas existencias de Chíncha, la cantidad de doscientos setenta y cuatro mil pájaros viviendo continuamente en aquellos lugares." Y en efecto, esta suma es bajo todos aspectos moderada, si se atiende á que las bandas de animales son tan numerosas y grandes que hoy mismo en que se encuentran perseguidos por los inconvenientes del tráfico, son increíbles si no se ven, valiéndonos de la frase que usó el Inca historiador.

Pero lo que resuelve definitivamente la cuestión acerca de la naturaleza del abono, es la autoridad de la química. Cuantos análisis se han hecho de él, dan como ya se ha visto, ácido úrico libre, uratos, fosfatos, carbonatos, fosfatos de amonio, y otros productos como estos eminentemente animales; y aun cuando entre tales materias se halla también la arena, su presencia se explica teniendo consideración que las aves la tragan con el alimento, y que, no siendo digerible, sale envuelta en los heces.

Entre las diversas tribus de pájaros que cubren los depósitos huaneros y los arrecifes inmediatos: entre esas turbas infinitas que oscurecen el sol; además de las aninghas, los zarcillos, los pájaros niños y los cuervos, los más notables son: los piqueros, los alcatraces, los aradores, los patos de mar, las gaviotas y los potoyuncos; individuos de diversas familias, que por el importante servicio que dispensan al país, son acreedores á que los hagamos conocer, dedicándoles algunas líneas.

PIQUEROS (*Sula*). Estos pájaros se llaman también *locos*, por su

notable estupidez, y por la suma facilidad con que se dejan cojer. Nadan muy raras veces y andan tan mal, que para sostenerse necesitan el auxilio de las robustas plumas de su cola. Vuelan continuamente á corta distancia de las aguas, y cuando divisan algun pez, se precipitan sobre él como una flecha y le dan caza en el instante. Mas no siempre consiguen apropiarse los frutos de su rara agilidad: su cobardia y su torpeza los hace esclavos de la poderosa fragata, y de otros pájaros que los golpean con sus alas y los pican hasta el punto de hacerles desembuchar el alimento para devorarlo ellos en seguida. Los piqueros anidan en partidas gigantescas y sus pichones permanecen algun tiempo cubiertos con una piel sedosa y blanquecina.

ALCATRACES (*Pelicanus*). El alcatraz de las huaneras del Perú es el Pelicano de los antiguos, ese símbolo del amor maternal, á quien se atribuía la virtud de nutrir á sus hijos con sangre sacada de su seno, cuando no hallaba otro alimento que ofrecerles. Las ideas que acerca de este pájaro se tienen en el dia son muy diversas, porque la fria observacion ha descubierto que, á manera de muchos hombres públicos, usurpaba su reputacion. La pretendida ternura del pelícano es un vicio contrario á esta virtud, vicio que de tal modo lo domina, que abandona con la mayor indiferencia sus polluelos al primero que quiere tomarlos. Mas si la poesia ha perdido con el conocimiento real de los pelícanos, la industria saca de ellos un partido que no ofrecian antes. Dotados de la talla del cisne y de magníficas y robustas alas, vuelan perfectamente, y cazan, como los piqueros, el pescado con una celeridad incomparable. Los Chinos aprovechan de estas prendas y de su configuracion orgánica. Despues de domesticarlos, los colocan un anillo en el cuello y los dedican á la pesca: el animal llena en muy poco tiempo la inmensa bolsa que tiene bajo el pico, y no siéndole posible tragar las presas que recoje, las pone á disposicion de su Señor.

ARADORES (*Rhinocops nigra*). Muy notables por la estructura de su pico bastante parecido á una tijera, son estos pájaros que por su modo de vivir, pueden llamarse los esclavos del mar. Impedidos por su configuracion de cazar como las aves superiores, para hallar alimento están forzados á volar sumerjiendo en el agua la parte inferior de su pico, imitando á la reja del arado cuando rompe las tierras labrantias. Felices los cuitados aradores, si despues de encontrar su sustento á costa de pesadas fatigas, no se ven precisados á cederlo á la violencia de sus dominadores, de la misma manera que ceden el fruto de sus sudores y trabajos los desgraciados que explotan los tesoros de la tierra para que los consuman á su vista sus opresores inhumanos.

Los aradores habitan las regiones tropicales y especialmente la América del Sur; tienen las alas largas, pero su vuelo es corto y nunca se alejan de la costa.

PATOS DE MAR (*Carbo Gaimardi*). Los patos de mar se distinguen por ser excelentes somorgujos: su voracidad es igual á la de los pelícanos, y cuando se han hartado, se encaraman sobre cualquiera altura por todo el tiempo de la digestion.—Es admirable ver, desde las cumbres de las rocas, la increíble velocidad con que los patos persiguen á su presa bajo el agua.

GAVIOTAS (*Larus*). Buitres del mar pueden llamarse las gaviotas desde que se las vé destinadas á limpiar las riberas y las aguas de cuantos despojos orgánicos contienen. El pescado y la carne, palpitantes o en putrefaccion, las escamas, las espinas, los huesos, todo conviene á su voracidad, todo so digiere y consume en su poderosísimo estómago. Con un carácter sanguinario á la vez que cobarde, huyen de los pájaros fuertes, oprimen á los débiles, tienen frecuentes riñas entre sí por arrebatarse las presas, y “cuando estan en cautiverio se ágría de tal suerte su humor, que se hiere sin motivo aparente, y la primera cuya sangre brota, es victima infeliz de las demas, que no se satisfacen hasta despedazarla despues de haberle acometido sin razon.” Las gaviotas andan en grandes tropas por las playas, nadan perfectamente y vuelan de tal modo que no es raro encontrarlas á un mas de cien leguas de tierra.

POTOYUNCOS (*Puffinaria Garnoti*). Estos pájaros se hallan en grandes porciones en toda la costa del Perú, y son los que mas huano producen:

anidan en cavernas formadas entre las acumulaciones del abono y procrean abundantemente.

Ademas de las especies mencionadas, hay otras muchas que concurren á aumentar la riqueza de las islas; pero no siendo nuestro objeto escribir la ornitología marítima del pais, concluiremos esta materia con algunas observaciones que estimamos de interés general.

La mayor parte de los pájaros productores de huano ofrecen á nuestros indígenas un mangar estimado en sus carnes. Nada es mas natural en los puertos que ver canoas cargadas de piqueros, potoyuncos, huanaes y huevos destinados al diario consumo y puestos en los públicos mercados; la aficion por estos alimentos se ha sobrepuesto á los mandatos que prohiben usarlos, y como la caza sigue haciéndose en notables proporciones, creemos que la administracion debe dictar medidas que sean parte á evitarla, á fin de que no imitemos al salvaje que corta el árbol para cojer el fruto, para que no ceguemos en su origen la fuente de donde hoy sacra el erario sus principios de vida. Aunque el huano no era para los aborígenes un artículo tan interesante como lo es para nosotros en el dia, ellos tomaban para su conservacion y consumo precauciones que, despojadas de la barbaridad propia del tiempo de los Incas, son bajo mil aspectos acreedoras á nuestra meditacion y á nuestro estudio. “Entónces habia tanta vijilancion en guardar los pájaros huaneros,” dice el autor de los ‘Comentarios Reales,’ “que en la época de cria á nadie era lícito entrar en las islas so pena de la vida, por que no los asombrasen y echasen de sus nidos. Tampoco era lícito matarlas en ningun tiempo, dentro ni fuera de las islas so la misma pena.”

En cuanto á la distribucion de la materia, empleaban reglas igualmente severas; mas ellas carecerian de sentido en nuestro estado actual.

Casi todos los pájaros de que acabamos de ocuparnos son cosmopolitas, y han formado grandes depósitos de huano en diferentes partes del mundo; huano que por la identidad de origen debia tener en todas latitudes las mismas propiedades fecundantes; mas no satisfecho el Ser Supremo con los tesoros que ha derramado en nuestro suelo, quiso al darnos el huano, darnos tambien un privilegio que realizase su mérito. Las monstruosas acumulaciones existentes en Patagonia y Africa, apenas sirven para los usos de la agricultura, porque las lluvias copiosas que las bañan disuelven sus principales elementos, y el amoniaco, y demas sales casi desaparecen, dejando dominar en el abono las bases calcáreas y terrosas. No sucede lo mismo bajo el cielo sereno del Perú, en donde reina una perpetua primavera que conservándolo su vigor nativo, hace que en todas circunstancias lleve á los campos los principios de fertilidad y de abundancia contenidas en su naturaleza. Por estas causas el huano de nuestras costas se prefiere en cuantos mercados se presenta, y mientras las leyes fisicas no cambien, continuará siendo superior á todos los huanos conocidos.

Verdad es, que no obstante su fuerza productora, la esfera de las aplicaciones del huano, tanto en el pais como en Europa, se encuentra casi limitada á los cereales, pues los indígenas, desde los tiempos de los Incas, lo reservan al maiz, al trigo y algunas veces á la quinua, y los cultivadores Europeos cuidan de no aplicarlo á los tubérculos y raices, porque les comunica un olor que está muy lejos de ser grato; pero como la industria aspira siempre á derribar cuantas barreras se le oponen á su marcha triunfal, parece que nuevos horizontes se abren ahora para el huano.

Segun los datos que trasmite al Gobierno nuestro Encargado de Negocios en Lóndres, en esta gran metrópoli se trata de preparar el huano con ácido sulfúrico y sustituirlo al superfosfata de cal, que esclusivamente ha servido al beneficio de los nabos y raices, sustitucion que realizada con buen éxito, aumentará la demanda del abono de un modo á toda luz indefinido. De esta manera el porvenir del huano es cada dia mas risueño, y solo falta que seamos prudentes, para gozar por tiempo ilimitado la renta adicional y extraordinaria que en tan crecidas porciones nos tributa.

I.

Posicion y Carácter de los Depositos de Huano—Division—Huaneras del Sur—Chipana—Huanillos—Punta de Lobos—Pabellon de Pica—Puerto Inglés—Islas de Iquique y Patillos—Punta Grande—Otros Depósitos—Resúmen.

Posicion y Carácter de los depósitos de Huano.

Desde los 6° de latitud meridional, hasta los 21° 2' de la misma, sitio en que el Rio Loa lleva sus aguas al Pacifico; casi todo el litoral y parte de nuestra costa ofrecen depósitos de huano notable por su buena calidad, por su abundancia prodigiosa, y por las grandes riquezas que promete.

Las bases de las islas y barrancos en que se encuentra acumulado, son comunmente de rocas primitivas, y asi se ven en ellas granitos anfibólicos, mica, gneiss, y otros lechos cuarzosos ó feltspáticos. El huano está generalmente dispuesto en capas mas ó ménos espesas cuya direccion es horizontal; pero á veces se inclinan de tal suerte que casi quedan verticales, fenómeno que como el de las capas onduladas, induce á creer que los terrenos en que estriban han sufrido desquiciamientos subterráneos posteriores á su formacion.

Como en algunos de estos depósitos se observa que el huano está cubierto por masas de aluvion, de una á tres varas de grueso, con impresiones de conchas marinas, masas que tienen sobre sí nuevas superposiciones de huano cubiertas por arenas superiores; es necesario suponer que la edad de estos sitios es anterior al diluvio, ó á los cataclismos y trastornos parciales que ha sufrido visiblemente el globo.

Nuestras huaneras en su mayor parte están cubiertas por una costra superior de formacion mecánica, y de un espesor que siendo en general de cuatro ó seis pulgadas, suele llegar á tres y cuatro pies, costra llamada por los naturales *caliche* y compuesta de sales y arena. Aunque no se han ensayado los efectos de esta sustancia aplicada á la vegetacion, es probable que abunde en amoniaco procedente de las emanaciones que recibe, y tan intimamente se liga con el huano, que bien puede decirse que hay entre ambos la relacion del efecto á la causa, pues si no siempre se halla caliche en los depósitos, el caliche es en toda circunstancia signo infalible de la existen del abono.

El color del huano en los depósitos varia desde el blanco hasta el rojo encendido, y pasa por las gradaciones intermedias del gris claro, el oscuro y el negrusco, estando este último mezclado con el huano de lobos, poco útil para la agricultura.

Parece que el peso específico del huano está en razon directa de su color y calidad, porque generalmente se observa ser mas pesados el ceniciento oscuro y el rojo, que los otros. Por esta causa, se hace sumamente difícil saber el peso de una vara cúbica de huano de diversos colores. En los esperimentos que se han hecho fluctua entre doce y diez y seis quintales, hasta que se ha convenido en asignarle el peso de media tonelada (diez quintales).

Estas observaciones generales comprenden á todas las huaneras del pais, y reasumen cuanto presentan de notable en su parte geográfica y geológica. Siendo una misma la materia, y casi identicas las fuentes de donde trae origen, el suelo y los agentes exteriores la modifican levemente, por cuya causa sus rasgos esenciales convienen en toda localidad y circunstancia.

II.

Division.

Para que el estudio de las huaneras sea fácil, es conveniente dividir las en tres grandes secciones: una meridional, que abraze las que se hallan situadas entre la raya de Bolivia y Acari; otra del centro, compuesta de las que estan entre este puerto y el Callao; y finalmente, la del norte, formada de las demas de la República. Procuraremos hacerlas conocer por su orden y con la rapidez correspondiente.

HUANERAS DEL SUR.

Chipana.

El depósito de este nombre está situado á los 21° 22' lat. S., y consiste en una meseta de veinticinco á treinta varas sobre el nivel del mar. En sus mayores dimensiones mide 357 varas de longitud y 131 de ancho, dando una superficie cuadrada de cuarenta y seis mil setecientas sesenta y siete varas (varas cúbicas, 46,767).

Huanillos.

Esta huanera se halla á 21° 18' lat. S., forma una punta en direccion del N. E. al S. O., y contiene cuatro quebradas, en las cuales está acumulado el huano. Su estencion superficial asciende á 158,242 varas cuadradas, y el número total de varas cúbicas de abono es tres millones ochocientas veinticinco mil diez (varas cúbicas, 3,825,010).

Punta de Lobos.

Así se llama una punta saliente que se encuentra á los 21° 6' lat. S., sobre bases de mica-esquito y de granito, y compuesta de barrancos y quebradas en donde existe el huano, formando capas cuya altura media es de quince á veinte varas, siendo de 640 la total longitud del terreno. Su estencion superficial es de 138,579 varas cuadradas, y el número de varas cúbicas de abono asciende á dos millones novecientas veintinueve mil quinientas ochenta (varas cúbicas, 2,921,580).

Pabellon de Pica.

Su forma de tienda de campaña y la inmediacion al pueblo de Pica, han dado nombre al cerro de que nos ocupamos al presente. Su situacion está marcada por los 20° 57' lat. S., y se compone de roca primitiva en la base y de gres arenisco en la cumbre. El huano de este depósito se halla en quebradas de variable altura cuya superficie mide 240,801 varas cuadradas, y el contenido en varas cúbicas llega á cinco millones novecientas cincuenta mil (varas cúbicas, 5,950,000).

Puerto Inglés.

El Puerto Inglés existe á poco mas de un cuarto de milla del Pabellon, en una pequeña península que, segun los indicios de su istmo, habrá sido isla en tiempos no remotos. El huano forma en este sitio una eminencia de 572 varas de largo, con una anchura que varía desde ciento cincuenta hasta trescientas varas, llegando su estencion superficial á ciento veintinueve mil doscientas cincuenta y una. Tomando en consideracion estos datos y la altura media de la acumulacion, puede admitirse la existencia de dos millones quinientas ochenta y cinco mil veinte varas cúbicas de huano (varas cúbicas, 2,585,020).

Islas de Iquique y Patillos.

Al norte de Pabellon y Puerto Inglés, bajo los 20° 46' lat. S., se encuentra la Isla de Patillos, y la de Iquique, en la ensenada de este nombre. Ambas fueron importantes depósitos de huano en los siglos pasados; pero ya exhaustos en el dia, solo contienen las pequeñas porciones resultantes de las deposiciones diarias de las aves. Apesar de lo exiguo de las nuevas acumulaciones, los agricultores inmediatos las estraen periódicamente en su totalidad, y como con este proceder impiden la rejeneracion de unos depósitos que por mas de doscientos años han satisfecho las necesidades de una gran parte del pais, sería de desear que se prohibiese el acceso á estas islas y á los demas islotes de la costa que en igual caso se hallan, á fin de que los pájaros los frecuenten con toda libertad y pueda contarse con repuestos en los momentos necesarios.

Punta Grande.

Un promontorio que se encuentra á 20° 23' lat. S., cerca de cuatro leguas de Iquique, se llama Punta Grande, y el huano que contiene está en diversas quebradas que miran sobre el mar. El núcleo de este terreno es compuesto de cuarzo, cruzado por algunas vetas de felspatos mas ó menos compacto, y tiene una superposicion calcárea.

Situada Punta Grande á inmediaciones del Morro de Tarapacá, que es una especie de montaña arenosa, el huano que allí existe se ve cubierto de capas tan espesas de arena, que es necesario practicar considerables excavaciones para hallarlo. Por esta causa se llaman "huaneras subterráneas" las de este sitio, y por ella tambien se hace sumamente difícil calcular la cantidad de abono que encierran. Mas no obstante lo que acabamos de decir, los prácticos convienen en que puede ascender á grandes cifras. Hay diversas razones para creer que estos diversos depósitos se explotan desde los tiempos de los Incas, y apesar de las inmensas extracciones que hasta el dia se han hecho, hay sin embargo, algunos todavia vírgenes. La calidad de este huano es regular, y en cuanto á los colores, lo dominan el rojo y el ceniciento.

Otros Depósitos.

Ademas de los depósitos descritos en el camino de Iquique á Punta Grande, y en Pisagua, caleta situada en el norte del punto anterior, existen pequeñas acumulaciones de huano blanco y fresco, sobre varios peñascos, de los cuales se estrae para los usos de la costa. Tambien hay sitios pertenecientes á particulares; pero en todos estos parajes son tan pequeñas las cosechas anuales de abono, que no merecen especial mencion.

Resumen.

Reuniendo los datos consignados al tratar de los depósitos del sur encontramos [quince millones] ochocientos cuarenta y dos mil ochocientos catorce varas cúbicas de huano, ó lo que viene á ser lo mismo, siete millones novecientos veintium mil cuatrocientas siete toneladas, como es de verse en la siguiente demostracion:

Huaneras.	Varas Cúbicas.	Toneladas.
Chipana	561,204	280,602
Huanillos	3,825,010	1,615,505
Punta de Lobos	2,921,580	1,460,790
Pabellon de Pica	5,950,000	2,975,000
Puerto Inglés	2,585,020	1,292,510
Totales	15,842,814	7,921,407

II.

Huaneras del centro.—Islas de Chincha—Huaneras del Norte—Lobos de Tierra—Isla Principal—Punta Corcobada—Isla Bermeja—Felix Gonzalez—Isla Colorada—Lobos de Fuera—Isla de Guañape—Islas de Malabrigo—Isla de Santa—Islas del Ferrol—Isla de San Martin—Marzoque—El Pelado—Islas de Pescadores—Las Hormigas—Cuadro General—Resumen—Descubrimientos posteriores.

Huaneras del Centro.

Los tres magníficos depósitos formados por las Islas de Chincha, á 13° 32' lat. meridional, es decir, á 12 millas de Pisco, y en direccion de N. S. unos de otros, puede decirse que constituyen por si solos las huaneras del centro, pues aunque entre los Morros de Carretas y Viejas, y

en los Islotes de Ballesta tambien se encuentra algun abono, este ademas de hallarse en barrancos visiblemente inaccesibles, apenas se calcula que ascienda á treinta mil toneladas efectivas.

Como ya entre nosotros nadie ignora que las Islas de Chincha forman la principal riqueza del Perú, que de ellas se hace la éstraccion del huano que provee á los mercados extranjeros, y que las acumulaciones de su seno son mas grandes que las de todas nuestras huaneras reunidas, creemos que para su descripcion nos será licito ensanchar algun tanto los límites que la naturaleza de nuestro trabajo nos señala.

La fisonomía de estas islas difiere poco en cuanto á sus caracteres generales, cuando se las compara entre sí; su masa se eleva gradualmente desde la orilla hasta la cumbre, y puede darsele una altura media de ciento diez varas á cada una. Su formacion geologica consiste en un granito bien caracterizado, el huano se halla dispuesto en capas paralelas algunas veces onduladas, y los colores en ellas dominantes son: el gris oscuro, el gris claro, el gris ceniciento, el blanco sucio, y finalmente el rojo, colores que no parecen influir en la naturaleza del huano, pues bajo todos ellos se observa la misma fuerza fecundante.

No obstante que casi todas las huaneras están cubiertas de esa costra mecánica denominado "caliche," las de Chincha son esepcion de la regla general, el huano puro se halla desde la supérficie, y en ella anidan formando escavaciones, los millares de pájaros que han dado estos veneros de opulencia.

Mediciones.

Los depósitos de que nos ocupamos al presente fueron medidos en 1842 por el Señor Don José Villa, y cuatro años despues por el Señor Rivero, de quien ya hemos hablado. El primero encontró una existencia de cincuenta millones de toneladas; el segundo rebaja de este cómputo dos tercios, y para esplicar la enorme diferencia que entre ambos cálculos se encuentra, dice:

"La altura media de las islas en las puntas salientes es de diez varas, las partes mas alejadas de la orilla tienen viente, y solo en las partes centrales el huano se halla á una profundidad de cuarenta. El Señor Villa creyó que la suma de los trabajos sucesivos hasta el corte principal, era de cuarenta varas, cuando no pasaba de quince; á esta suma añadió otras cuarenta por el corte principal, error gravísimo, puesto que para admitirlo como dato siquiera probable, era preciso que ese corte central se estendiese uniformemente hasta la orilla, presentando allí el huano la elevacion de ochenta varas. Y no contento todavia con esta hipérbole, añadió que habia alturas mas considerables, de manera que segun su juicio, el huano debió tener ciento ó mas varas de profundidad, cuando las islas apenas tienen esa elevacion sobre el nivel del mar. Aviértase igualmente que en cuanto á la superficie, tampoco pudo ni aproximarse á la verdad, por cuanto el método que empleó no es susceptible de ofrecer satisfactorios resultados."

Despues de justificarse en estos términos, y observando que al pié del corte mas profundo de huano hizo una escavacion, que á las tres varas mostró la roca viva; pasa á dar cuenta del método que empléó para sus operaciones topográficas, y haciendo de los productos juiciosas deducciones, nos da, por aproximacion, las resultados siguientes:

Islas.	Varas Cúbicas.	Toneladas.
Islas del Norte	15,200,000	7,600,000
Idem del Medio	12,900,000	6,450,000
Idem del Sur	8,400,000	4,200,000
Totales	36,500,000	18,250,000

Por donde se vé que las Islas de Chincha contienen diez y ocho millones doscientas cincuenta mil toneladas de huano, segun la medicion que mas títulos tiene para considerarse razonable.

III.

HUANERAS DEL NORTE

Esta seccion es sin duda inferior á las que dejamos descritas, pues estando compuesta en su mayor parte de islas pequeñas, bajas y combatidas en todas direcciones por los vientos, la parte de abono que contienen es de poco espesor en general, y con frecuencia mezclada con arena.

En el estado en que se encuentran las Huaneras del Norte, apenas podrian soportar un año las demandas del consumo extranjero; mas si se atiende á que su huano puro es de escelente calidad, y á que actualmente son morada de esas nubes inmensas de pájaros que ahuyentados del sur y del centro por los inconvenientes del tráfico, se han refugiado en sus dominios solitarios, esta parte de nuestro litoral tiene un inmenso porvenir, como llamada á renovar los raudales de la riqueza pública, cuando se hayan agotado las fuentes que hoy le sirven de pábulo.

Cuatro son las principales divisiones que pueden establecerse en las islas objeto del capítulo presente, y considerándolas segun su importancia respectiva, ocupan el primer lugar las llamadas

Lobos de Tierra.

Treinta y cinco millas al S. O. de Lambayeque, ó lo que viene á ser lo mismo, á 5° 6' 30" lat. S., forman las Islas de Lobos de Tierra, una especie de grupo compuesto de una isla principal (Lobos de Tierra propiamente dicha), tres pequeñas, y varias rocas adyacentes.

Isla Principal.

Como un inmenso óvalo profundamente comprimido en las regiones del norte y del centro, se estiende este depósito, en donde el huano no cubre por igual la superficie del terreno, interrumpida por picos y barrancos, sino tan solo el fondo de estos y los promontorios salientes.

Reuniendo las cantidades parciales que se encuentran en la garganta superior, en Punta Colorada, y en otra punta opuesta á la Isla de Felix Gonzalez, resultan aproximadamente ciento cincuenta mil doscientas varas cúbicas de huano, de color rojo y ceniciento oscuro que debe contener alguna mezcla de huano de lobo (varas cúbicas, 150,900).

Punta Corcobada.

Un alto promontorio que hace parte integrante de la isla anterior, lleva el nombre de Punta Corcobada, derivado de su configuracion especial. Su superficie estremadamente irregular abunda en huano blanquecino que parece de nueva formacion, tiene poco espesor, mas á juzgarlo por sus apariencias, es de una calidad inmejorable. Esta localidad, por su estructura, favorece las acumulaciones de huano, y como á demas de estas circunstancias es protegida por el curso de los vientos, y el acopio de pájaros en ella es mayor que en cualquier otro punto de la seccion que describimos, hay sobrado razon para esperar que, con el tiempo, se haga un venero de importancia.

La estencion superficial de la Punta alcanza á 113,940 varas cuadradas, y las operaciones topográficas practicadas en ella dán doscientas veinticuatro mil setecientas sesenta varas cúbicas de huano (varas cúbicas, 224,760).

Isla Bermeja.

Mas de trescientas varas el O. de la isla grande, y ligada á ella por coronas de rocas que se pierden en la marea llena, se encuentra la Bermeja, cuya forma representa una espátula. Su mayor largo es 495 varas, 220 su ancho y de 30 á 35 su altura. El abundante huano que aquí

existe, es de superior calidad y en su superficie se observa esa corteza de salitre tan comun en las huaneras del sud.

La área de la Bermeja es 52,926 varas cuadradas; la mayor profundidad es de 36 pies, y las varas cúbicas que arroja ascienden á trescientas diez y siete mil quinientas cincuenta y seis (varas cúbicas, 317,556).

Felix Gonzalez.

Al S. O. de Punta Corcobada y como á distancia de una milla, ~~esta~~ Felix Gonzalez, isla de 90 varas de largo, 70 de ancho, y 15 de elevacion sobre el nivel del mar. El huano que contiene es superior, el grueso de la parte acumulada es 4 ó 5 varas, la área presenta 6,550 varas cuadradas, y el cálculo final veintiseis mil doscientas varas cúbicas (varas cúbicas, 26,200).

Isla Colorada.

Esta isla se halla al S. E. de la isla principal; mide 336 varas de largo y 180 de ancho, y su mayor elevacion se ha calculado en 25 ó 30 varas sobre el nivel del mar. La roca primitiva que la forma esta enteramente cubierta de huano, y el mayor espesor de esta materia encontrado por escavacion es 39 pies.

Aunque el color que domina en el abono es el rojo, como ya pudo deducirse por el nombre de la isla, las cápas interiores son grises y tambien cenicientas, impregnadas de un fuerte olor de amonio.

La isla á la fecha es centro de un inmenso concurso de pájaros que anidan tanto en la superficie como en cavernas formadas en su seno. Tiene por estencion superficial 31,510 varas cuadradas, y de huano doscientas treinta y seis mil trescientas varas cúbicas (varas cúbicas, 236,300). De esta isla se han sustraído como 600 toneladas de huano.

Reuniendo ahora el resultado de todas las mediciones practicadas en la seccion presente, tendremos el huano contenido en los Lobos de Tierra:

Depositos.	Varas Cúbicas.	Toneladas.
Isla Principal	150,900	75,450
Punta Corcobada	224,760	112,380
Isla Bermeja	317,556	158,778
Felix Gonzalez	26,200	13,100
Isla Colorada	236,300	118,155
Totales	955,716	477,850

Lobos de Fuera.

Con el nombre de "Lobos de Fuera" se señalan dos islas situados á 7° 3' lat. S., y separadas entre sí por un canal cuyo ancho no excede de cuarenta varas, y en direccion de N.E. y S.E. La base de estas islas es pizarra, la superficie muy irregular, y el huano que contienen abundante, aunque parece estar mezclado con el huano de lobo, por que allí abundan estos animales. Los pájaros que la habitan forman numerosas bandadas, entre las que dominan los piqueros.

No habiendose manifestado accesible la isla del norte, solo pudo reconocer la del sur el ingeniero del Gobierno: de sus cálculos resulta que tiene una área de 292,380 varas cuadradas, y un volúmen de huano que arroja quinientas treinta y un mil cuatrocientas treinta y seis varas cúbicas (varas cúbicas, 531,436).

Islas de Guatapo.

Estas islas son dos y se encuentran á los 8° 36' lat. S. como á distancia de cinco millas de la costa. Su base comun es de granito, y la mayor se alza bruscamente sobre el mar hasta la altura de 175 varas. El huano se halla en la isla mas del norte, y por ser esta de forma piramidal, cuando soplan los vientos, cae al agua en crecidísimas porciones. No obstante estas pérdidas periódicas, en las 75,780 varas cuadradas de la área se calculan ciento cincuenta y nueve mil seiscientas veinte varas cúbicas de huano (varas cúbicas, 159,620).

Islas de Malabrigo.

A 7° 48' lat. S., se encuentran esta islas, cuyo seno encierra porciones considerables de huano; mas no pudieron ser reconocidas por los inconvenientes del mal tiempo.

Isla de Santa.

La Isla de Santa se halla á 9° 11' lat. S., y apenas tiene algunas toneladas de huano de muy reciente formación. Pero si bajo este punto de vista no es en el dia interesante, parece que le está reservado en lo futuro un papel de importancia. Segun las relaciones de los Indios pescadores de esa costa, ahora 15 ó 20 años, la superficie de la isla era una roca completamente limpia en donde no descansaba ningun pájaro. Al presente ha cambiado de aspecto; el abono se empieza á acumular, la frecuentan muchas aves huaneras, y la vasta área de este sitio antes desierto y silencioso es sin dudar el centro de nuevos depósitos de huano preparados por la Providencia á las generaciones venideras.

Islas del Ferrol.

Hállanse á 9° 7' lat. S. las islas de que nos ocupamos; no tienen huano, y la mayor parte del que en la costa opuesta se divisa en una gran barranca, es de lobo. A los dos lados de este, sin embargo, hay algun huano que parece de pájaros; el depósito es de forma triangular, y puede valuarse el contenido en sesenta y un mil cuatrocientas varas cúbicas (varas cúbicas 61,400).

Isla de San Martin.

Tambien se llama de Donna María, la Isla de San Martin, sita á 11° 4' lat. S., frente al pueblo de Bégueta, en la Provincia de Chancay.

El año de 1821 se estableció en ella un hospital en donde se medicinaban los enfermos del ejército libertador que, al mando del Jeneral San Martin, desembarcó en las playas de Huacho. En aquel tiempo el suelo de la isla estaba limpio, como el de la de Santa; mas á la fecha es el albergue de innumerables pájaros, y ya contiene acumulaciones de huano blanco, que suele estraerse por los naturales de la costa.

Marzoque.

Muy rudamente se levanta sobre la superficie del mar hasta la altura de 150 varas, la Isla de Marzoque, situada entre los 11° 25' lat. S. La base es una roca primitiva de difícil acceso, y que no es posible dominar sin esponerse á grandes riesgos. Aunque Marzoque es hoy dia el concurso de numerosos pájaros, no tiene considerables depósitos de huano, y á juzgar por su estructura, parece que en ningun tiempo ha de admitir acumulaciones de importancia. Los Indios de Huacho hacen en este sitio copiosas cazas de piqueros.

El Pelado.

Bajo la forma de una mesa gigántica, y hasta la altura de 200 varas, se eleva cási perpendicularmente la roca de El Pelado, cinco millas al

S. O. de la isla anterior. Su color blanco y estructura especial, hacen que, á lo lejos, se tome muchas veces por un buque á la vela, especialmente cuando está despejado el horizonte. Tiéne muy poco huano; pero como allí abundan los pájaros que lo producen, es visitada con frecuencia por pescadores de Huacho, los que consiguen dominarla con auxilio de cuerdas para llenar sus canoas de piqueros, huanaes y huevos que recojen en grandes porciones, y ofrecen al consumo en su distrito, en el Callao y Lima.

Segun las relaciones que ellos mismos, dice Mr. Carter, le hicieron, consumen mas de veinticuatro mil pájaros huaneros cada año, y como doce mil huevos; por donde puede concebirse hasta qué punto destruyen unos animales que por tantas razones debian conservarse.

Islas de Pescadores.

Mas bien que verdaderas islas, son rocas esparcidas en el mar los puntos que llevan este nombre, situados entre los 11° 46' S. El huano que contienen es poquísimo, de color blanco puerco y de reciente formacion. Siendo su área muy corta, no brindan con depósitos de codicia, aunque los pájaros que las frecuentan son infinitos y variados. Lo mismo que se ha dicho de estas islas puede decirse de las Islas de Ancon.

Las Hormigas.

Una isla chica rodeada en todas direcciones de arrecifes, forma á los 11° 56' S., el conjunto llamado "Las Hormigas." Sobre el asiento principal hay algun huano; mas no permitiendo los bajos aproximarse en embarcaciones de quilla, no pudo saltar á tierra Mr. Carter, no obstante que vió allí muchos Indios que cazaban los pájaros huaneros, y que habian logrado este triunfo á merced de la construccion especial de sus canoas. Las Hormigas forman los últimos depósitos de huano en la parte del norte; y á fin de dar aproximadamente el resumen de todos los medidos en ella, vamos á reunir los productos parciales:

Depósitos.	Varas Cúbicas.	Toneladas.
Lobos de Tierra	953,716	476,858
Lobos de Fuera	531,436	265,718
Guañape	159,620	79,810
Ferrol	61,400	30,700
Totales	1,706,172	853,086

De las operaciones anteriores resulta que el huano acumulado en los de depósitos del norte reconocidos hasta el dia, sube á ochocientas cincuenta y tres mil ochenta y seis toneladas (853,086).

Pasando ahora á reunir todos los productos hallados, tendremos el siguiente:

Cuadro General.

Secciones.	Huaneras.	Varas Cúbicas.	Toneladas.	Totales.
SUR	Chipana	561,204	280,602	7,921,407
	Huanillos	3,825,010	1,612,505	
	Punta de Lobos	2,921,580	1,460,790	
	Pabellon de Pica	5,950,000	2,975,000	
	Puerto Inglés	2,585,020	1,292,510	
<i>Islas de Chincha.</i>				
CENTRO	Isla del Norte	15,200,000	7,600,000	18,250,000
	Isla del Medio	12,900,000	6,450,000	
	Isla del Sur	8,400,000	4,200,000	
<i>Lobos de Tierra.</i>				
NORTE.. ..	Isla Principal	150,900	75,450	476,858
	Punta Corcobada	224,760	112,380	
	Isla Bermeja	317,556	158,778	
	Felix Gonzalez	26,200	13,100	
	Isla Colorada	236,300	118,150	376,228
	Lobos de Fuera	531,436	265,718	
	Guañape	159,620	79,810	
	Ferrol	61,400	30,700	
3	16	54,050,986	27,024,493	27,024,493

Por donde se encuentra que las tres secciones en que hemos dividido las huaneras de la República constan de diez y seis depósitos principales que encierran veintisiete millones veinticuatro mil cuatrocientas noventa y tres toneladas, segun las juiciosas mediciones hechas por los encargados del Gobierno.

Simplificando ahora el cuadro anterior encontramos el siguiente :—

Resumen.

Secciones.	Huaneras.	Toneladas.	Totales.
SUR	Chipana	280,602	7,621,407
	Huanillos	1,612,505	
	Punta de Lobos	1,460,790	
	Pabellon de Pica	2,975,000	
	Puerto Inglés	1,292,510	
CENTRO	Isla del Norte	7,600,000	18,250,000
	Isla del Medio	6,450,000	
	Isla del Sur	4,200,000	
NORTE	Lobos de Tierra	476,858	854,086
	Lobos de Fuera	265,718	
	Guañape	79,810	
	Ferrol	30,700	
3	12	27,024,493	27,024,493

Descubrimientos Posteriores.

Por inmensa que sea la cantidad de huanco que aparece en los depósitos descritos, ella está muy distante, sin embargo, de representar todo el abono existente en el país, pues sin contar con los lugares que no se han visitado en el mar, por la dificultad de su acceso, hay fundadas razones para creer que las Huaneras subterráneas de Iquique y los sitios cubiertos de arena en la Punta de Lobos del sur encierran porciones gigantescas. Además de estas, la prensa y documentos oficiales acaban de revelarnos la existencia de otros nuevos depósitos tan ricos como los de Chíncha, ignorados por la generalidad y denunciados al Gobierno por D. Gerónimo Fernández.

(Translation.)

Considerations upon Guano.

THE second edition of the "Considerations upon Guano," which is now in the press, is due to the patriotic zeal with which the worthy Señor General who holds the Department of Finance favours and promotes whatever can contribute in any way to the prosperity of the country, and to the very great kindness with which he regards our literary attempts. The object of this work is to bring together under one cover all the documents of importance having reference to the manure which so powerfully augments the national treasury; and as it contains new investigations and new data which are unknown to the public, we are of opinion that the insertion of some extracts in the columns of this paper will be favourably received.*

I.

Nature of Guano—Probable time necessary for the formation of the Chíncha Islands—Birds which produce Guano—Destruction of these birds by the Indians—System which the Indians observe in doing this—Causes of the superiority of Peruvian Guano over other known Guanos—New applications of Guano.

Before the nature of guano was sufficiently known among us, it was believed by some, that this substance was of mineral origin, and consequently inexhaustible; but after attentive observation and scientific research, this idea cannot be entertained under any point of view.

That guano is a production of the excrement of maritime birds may be proved in two ways: by physical facts which immediately act upon the senses, and by analytic processes.

If we occupy ourselves with the former, we find that the accumulations of guano are never found in lands of the interior, but on the coast lands, and most commonly on the sea; a phenomenon not observed with mines, which are spread about in different parts, as is known to all. We observe, too, that at the bottom of the thick layers of this manure, there are constantly found skeletons of birds and fishes, eggs, and other organic matters, wholly or partially pulverized; that the layers of common guano alternate with layers of lobo [seal] guano, which proves that the islands have simultaneously or alternately been covered with different animals; and, finally, that we now see guano upon bare rocks where formerly there was not the remotest trace of any. The Isle of Santa, situated in 9° 11' south latitude, was completely bare fifteen or twenty years ago, according to the report which the inhabitants of the adjacent coasts made to Mr. Carter, and now it contains some tons of it. That of St. Martin, which rises in 14° 4' south latitude, within sight of the village of Bégueta in the Province of Chancay, was the locality of an extensive hospital where the sick men of the liberating army in 1821 were attended; it then contained no guano, but it has a small quantity now. We may add to all those proofs the popular opinion of the natives, who, judging of the subject without being under the influences of prejudices engendered by systems,

* The classification of the guano-producing birds is due to the kindness of Señor Raimondi, Professor of Natural History in the College of Independence.

have attributed an animal origin to the substance which fertilizes their lands. Nor could it be otherwise, since they see immense flocks of birds of various kinds accumulating their excretions in the islands in a way that at a distance look like "new mountains," according to the expression of Garcilaso; excretions which, being first white, changed colour while he looked at them, in consequence of the fermentation of their component parts, and the action of external agents. If, on looking at the enormous masses of the Chincha Islands, it seems difficult to conceive how they could have been formed out of matters so small in appearance, it will admit of satisfactory explanation by attending to the following computation of Señor Rivero :

"Supposing," he says, "that these deposits comprise 18,000,000 tons, weighing 360,000,000 quintals, this gives us a weight of 566,000,000,000 of ounces. Well, then, it is no exaggeration to admit that each bird deposits one ounce of excrement every day. From the deluge until now there are elapsed about 6000 years, or what amounts to the same, 2,190,000 days. Dividing the number of ounces by the number of days, we shall find that the quantity of 274,000 birds, living constantly in those places, will be sufficient for the astounding masses of Chincha." And in fact this quantity is under every point of view moderate, if it is considered that the flocks of these creatures are so numerous and so large, that even now, disturbed as they are by reason of traffic, it is incredible to those who have not seen them, to use the phrase of the Inca historian.

But the authority of chemistry definitively resolves the question of the nature of this manure. All the analyses made of it give, as it has been shown, free uric acid, urates, phosphates, carbonates, phosphate of ammonia, and other results, which like them are eminently animal; and although sand is also found among these matters, its presence is explained by the consideration that birds swallow it with their food, and that, not being digestible, it passes off enveloped in fæces.

Among the different species of birds which cover the guano-deposits and the adjoining reefs, among those enormous flocks which obscure the sun, besides the aninghas, zarcillos, niños, and ravens, the most remarkable are the piqueros, pelicans, aradores, marine geese, gulls, and puffins; creatures of various families, which, by the important service they render to the country, deserve to be made known by our dedicating a few lines to them.

PIQUEROS (*Sula*). These birds are called "locos" [boobies], from their remarkable stupidity, and the great facility with which they allow themselves to be caught. They very rarely swim, and they walk so ill, that they require the aid of the strong feathers of their tails to keep themselves up. They are continually flying at an inconsiderable height above the waves, and when they perceive a fish they dart down upon it like an arrow, and give chase in an instant. But they do not always succeed in retaining the fruit of their extraordinary agility: their cowardice and stupidity make them a prey to the powerful man-of-war bird, and to other birds, which strike them with their wings and pierce them with their beaks to make them disgorge the prey, which they afterwards swallow themselves. The piqueros make their nests in very large companies, and their young remain for some time covered with a silky and whitish skin.

PELICANS (*Pelicanus*). The pelican of the guano-deposits of Peru is the pelican of the ancients, the symbol of maternal love, and which is said to have fed its young with blood drawn from its own breast, when it had no other food to offer them. The idea we have now of this bird is very different: for cool observation has shown that, like many public men, the pelican had unfairly obtained its reputation. The pretended tenderness of the pelican is a vice opposite to that virtue, by which vice it is so far governed that it leaves its young with perfect indifference to any one that will take them. But if poetry has lost by our obtaining a real knowledge of pelicans, industry gains something from them which they had never furnished before. Having the stature of the swan, and being provided with magnificent and powerful wings, they fly to perfection, and, like the piqueros, catch fish within comparable swiftness. The Chinese avail themselves of these qualities, and of the peculiar conformation of the bird. After

having tamed them, they put a ring round their necks, and send them to fish; the bird in a very short time fills the immense pouch which it has under the beak; and being unable to swallow the fish which it has caught, it places them at the disposal of its owner.

ARADORES (*Rinchops nigra*). Very remarkable for the structure of its beak, which is a good deal like a pair of scissors. These birds may be called, from their mode of living, the slaves of the sea; being prevented by their conformation from seizing fish like the preceding birds, they are compelled, in order to get food, to fly with the lower part of the beak under water, like the ploughshare as it breaks up the clods. The wretched aradores may be called lucky, when after obtaining their food with great fatigue, they do not find themselves compelled to give it up to the violence of the more powerful birds, in the same way that the unhappy men who earn the produce of the land by their labour and sweat, yield it up to be consumed by their inhuman oppressors.

The aradores inhabit the tropical regions, and especially South America; they have large wings, but they have a short flight, and never go far from the coast.

MARINE GEESE (*Carbo Gaimardi*). The marine geese are distinguished as excellent divers; their voracity is equal to that of the pelican, and when they are satiated, they rest upon some high point during the whole time of digestion. It is wonderful to see, from the summit of the rocks, the incredible velocity with which the marine geese follow their prey under water.

GULLS (*Larus*.) The gulls may be called sea vultures, for they are destined to clear the rocks and the waters from all the organic remains which they contain. Fish and flesh just killed or in a state of putrefaction, shells, spines, bones, everything suits their voracity, all is digested and consumed in their powerful stomach. With a sanguinary and at the same time cowardly disposition, they avoid strong birds and oppress weak ones; they have frequent quarrels amongst themselves to snatch their prey from each other; and "when they are in captivity, their temper becomes so bad that they beat each other without apparent motive, and the first that loses blood becomes the unhappy victim of the others, who are not satisfied until they have torn in pieces the object of their unreasonable attacks." Gulls are found in large flocks on the shores; they swim perfectly, and fly so well that it is not uncommon to meet with them more than 100 leagues from land.

PUFFINS (*Puffinaria Garnoti*). These birds are found in large bodies on all the Peruvian coast-line, and they are the most copious producers of guano; they make their nests in caverns formed between the accumulations of this manure, and procreate abundantly.

Besides the species above mentioned, there are many others which concur to increase the riches of these islands; but as it is not our object to write the maritime ornithology of the country, we shall conclude this subject by some observations which we think of general interest.

The major part of the birds which produce guano furnish our natives with a valued article of food in their flesh. Nothing is more common in our ports than to see canoes loaded with piqueros, puffins, huanaes, and eggs, intended for daily consumption, and displayed in the public markets. The fondness for this kind of food overcomes the decrees which prohibit its use, and as the chase is constantly going on, we are of opinion that the Government ought to take measures to put an end to it, so that we may not imitate the savage who cuts down the tree to gather the fruit, nor stop at its source the fountain from which our treasury now draws its principle of life. Although guano was not for the aborigines so important an article as it is now for us, they took precautions for its preservation and employment, which, when freed from the barbarism appertaining to the time of the Incas, are under every point of view deserving our meditation and study. "There was then such vigilance in preserving the guano-producing birds," says the author of the 'Comentarios Reales,' "that during breeding-time no one was allowed to enter the islands on pain of death, that they should not be alarmed and driven from their nests. And it was not lawful to kill them at any time, either in or out of the islands, under the same penalty."

With regard to the distribution of the article, they adopted rules equally severe, but which would not be fitted for the present state of things.

Almost all the birds of which we have given an account are cosmopolitan, and have formed great deposits of guano in different parts of the world; guano that should by the identity of origin, retain the same fertilizing properties in all latitudes; but the Supreme Being, not satisfied with the manures which he has spread over our country, when he gave us guano, gave us also a privilege which enhanced its value. The enormous accumulations existing in Patagonia and Africa serve with difficulty for the uses of agriculture, because the copious rains which fall on them dissolve their principal ingredients, and the ammoniacal and other salts almost all disappear, leaving the calcareous and earthy bases predominant in the manure. This is not the case under the serene sky of Peru, where there reigns a perpetual spring, which, preserving the manure in its natural strength, makes it under all circumstances yield to the field those principles of fertility and abundance which it contains naturally. For these reasons the guano of our coasts is preferred in every market to which it is carried; and until the laws of nature be changed, it will continue always to be superior to all other known guanos.

It is true, that notwithstanding its productive power, the application of guano both here and in Europe, is almost wholly limited to cereal grains; for the natives, from the time of the Incas, reserve it for maize, wheat, and occasionally for quinoa; and European farmers are careful not to use it for tubers and roots, because it communicates to them an odour which is very far from agreeable; but as industry always aspires to bear down the barriers which oppose its triumphal course, it appears that the horizon now offers new prospects for guano.

According to intelligence transmitted to Government by our Chargé d'Affaires in London, it is proposed in that great metropolis, to prepare guano with sulphuric acid, and to use it instead of superphosphate of lime, which has hitherto been used exclusively for turnips and other roots; a substitution which will, if successful, increase the demand for this manure to an indefinite extent. The prospects of guano in this way become every day more promising, and we require only prudence, in order to enjoy for an unlimited period the additional revenue which is so liberally offered to us.

I.

Locality and Character of the Guano-Deposits—Division—Guano-Deposits of the South—Chipana—Huanillos—Punta de Lobos—Pabellon de Pica—Puerto Ingles—Islands of Iquique and Patillos—Punta Grande—Other Deposits—Summary.

Locality and Character of the Guano-Deposits.

From 6° to 21° 2' of south latitude, the point at which the Rio Loa enters the Pacific, almost the whole of the sea-board, and part of our coast, affords deposits of guano remarkable for its good quality, its prodigious abundance, and for the great wealth which it promises.

The foundations of the islands and hollows on which it is accumulated are commonly primitive rock, and we see in them amphibolic granites, mica, gneiss, and other quartzose and feldspathic beds. The guano is usually disposed in layers more or less thick, of a horizontal direction; but in some cases they are so inclined as to be nearly vertical—a phenomenon which, like that of undulating strata, induces a belief that the ground on which they are laid has suffered subterranean perturbations since it was deposited.

As it is observed in some of these deposits that the guano is covered with masses of alluvial matter from one to three yards in thickness, having impressions of marine shells, which masses have on them other layers of guano covered by still more elevated sands, it must necessarily be supposed that the age of those deposits is anterior to the deluge, or to some partial floods and disturbances which the globe has obviously suffered.

Our guano-deposits are for the most part covered by a superior crust

of mechanical formation, which is usually from four to six inches in thickness, but may reach to three or four feet—a crust called by the natives *caliche*, and composed of salts and sand. Although it is not known what effect this substance would have if applied to vegetation, it is probable that it abounds in ammonia, arising from the emanations which it receives; and it is so intimately connected with the guano, that it may well be said the relation between them is that of cause and effect; because, although caliche may not always be found in the deposits, yet in every case caliche is an infallible sign of the existence of this manure.

The colour of the guano in the deposits varies from white to a glowing red, and it passes through the intermediate gradations of bright, dark, and blackish, the latter being mingled with the guano of seals [*lobos*], which is of little use in agriculture.

It appears that the specific gravity of guano is in the direct ratio of its colour and quality, because the dark ash-colour and the red are observed to be heavier than the others. For this reason, it is exceedingly difficult to find the weight of a cubic yard of guano of different colours. In the experiments which have been made it fluctuates between 12 and 16 quintals, so that it has been agreed upon to assign to it the weight of half a ton (10 quintals).

These general observations comprehend all the guano-deposits of the country, and they embrace everything which is remarkable in its geographical or geological character. The matter being the same, and the sources of its origin almost identical, the soil and exterior agencies do but slightly modify it, for which reason its essential features are the same in every locality, and under all circumstances.

II.

Division.

In order to facilitate the study of the guano-deposits, it is convenient to divide them into three great sections:—one of the south, which includes those situated between the boundary of Bolivia and Acari; another of the centre, comprising those which lie between the latter port and Callao; and finally, that of the north, formed of the rest of the Republic. We will endeavour to make them known in their order as rapidly as can be done.

GUANO-DEPOSITS OF THE SOUTH.

Chipana.

The deposit of this name is situated in $21^{\circ} 22'$ south latitude, and consists of a flat of from twenty-five to thirty yards above the level of the sea. In its greatest dimensions it measures 357 yards long and 130 broad, giving a superficial area of 46,767 square yards.

Huanillos.

This deposit is in $21^{\circ} 18'$ south latitude. It forms a promontory in the direction of north-east and south-west, and contains four reefs (*quebradas*), on which the guano is accumulated. Its superficial extent amounts to 158,242 square yards, and the total number of cubic yards of manure is 3,825,010.

Punta de Lobos.

This is the name of a long point in $21^{\circ} 6'$ south latitude, upon a foundation of mica-schist and granite; it is composed of hollows and broken ground (*barrancos y quebradas*), where the guano is found, forming layers whose mean thickness is from fifteen to twenty yards, the total length of the ground being 640 yards. Its superficial contents are 138,579 square yards, and the number of cubic yards reaches to 2,921,580.

Pabellon de Pica.

Its bell-shape, and its vicinity to the village of Pica, have given this name to the hill of which we now speak. Its locality is in $20^{\circ} 57'$ south latitude; it is composed of primitive rock at the base, and of sandy clay on the summit. The guano of this deposit is found in masses of variable height, measuring superficially 240,801 square yards, and its contents in cubic yards are 5,950,000.

Puerto Ingles.

Puerto Ingles is little more than a quarter of a mile from the Pabellon, on a small peninsula, which, according to the appearances of the isthmus, may have been an island at no very remote period. The guano on this spot forms an eminence of 572 yards long, with a breadth varying from 150 to 300 yards, the superficial measurement being 129,251 square yards. Taking these data into consideration with the mean height of the deposit, we may admit the existence here of 2,585,020 cubic yards of guano.

Islands of Iquique and Patillos.

To the northward of the Pabellon and of Puerto Ingles, under $20^{\circ} 46'$ of south latitude, are the Islands of Patillos and of Iquique, in the bay of the latter name. Both have been important deposits of guano in past ages, but being now exhausted, they contain only the small quantities arising from the daily excretions of the birds. Notwithstanding the small amount of the new accumulations, the neighbouring farmers take the whole of it away periodically; and as they by so doing prevent the regeneration of certain deposits, which for more than 200 years have satisfied the wants of a great part of the country, it would be desirable to prohibit access to these islands, and to the other little isles on the coast which are in similar circumstances, in order that the birds may have full liberty to frequent them, and that a new store may be laid up for future occasions.

Punta Grande.

A promontory situated in $20^{\circ} 23'$ south latitude, about four leagues from Iquique, is called Punta Grande; and the guano which it contains is in different divisions (quebradas) looking towards the sea. The nucleus of this ground is composed of quartz, traversed by some veins of feldspar, more or less compact, and is covered by a superior layer of calcareous nature.

Punta Grande being situated close to the Morro de Tarapacá, which is a sort of sandy hill, the guano found there is covered by such thick layers of sand, that it is necessary to make considerable excavations to get at it; for which reasons, these are called subterranean deposits; and it is consequently extremely difficult to calculate the quantity of manure they contain. But notwithstanding what we have just stated, those who are acquainted with them agree that it may amount to a high figure. There are several reasons to suppose that these different deposits have been worked from the time of the Incas; and notwithstanding the immense quantities which have continued to this day to be taken out of them, there are some that are even now untouched. The quality of this guano is the average, and in respect to colour, the red and ashy predominate.

Other Deposits.

In addition to the deposits described on the passage from Iquique to Punta Grande, and in Pisagua, an inlet situated to the northward of the further point, there are small accumulations of white and fresh guano upon several rocky places, some of which are worked for the uses of the coast. There are also spots which are the private property of individuals; but in all these places the annual produce of the manure is so small that it does not require an especial mention.

Summary.

Putting together the data laid down in treating of the deposits of the south, we find [15,]842,814 cubic yards of guano, or, what comes to the same thing, 7,921,407 tons, as will be seen in the following statement :

Deposits.	Cubic Yards.	Tons.
Chipana	561,204	280,602
Huanillos	3,825,010	1,615,505
Punta de Lobos	2,921,580	1,460,790
Pabellon de Pica	5,950,020	2,975,000
Puerto Inglés	2,585,020	1,292,510
Total	15,842,814	7,921,407

II.

Deposits of the Centre—Islands of Chincha—Deposits of the North—Lobos de Tierra—Principal Island—Punta Corcobada—Isla Bermeja—Felix Gonzalez—Isla Colorada—Lobos de Fuera—Isles of Guañape—Isles of Malabrigo—Isle of Santa—Islands of Ferrol—Island of St. Martin—Marzoque—El Pelado—The Pescadores—The Hormigas—General view—Summary—Former discoveries.

GUANO-DEPOSITS OF THE CENTRE.

The three magnificent deposits formed by the Chincha Islands, in 13° 32' south latitude, that is to say, at 12 miles from Pisco, in the direction of north to south, may be said to constitute by themselves the deposits of the centre ; because, although between the Morros de Carretas and Viejas, and on the Islets of Ballesta, there is also some manure found, yet besides being placed in hollows, which are clearly inaccessible, it is calculated that it can barely amount to 30,000 tons.

As none of us are ignorant that the Chincha Islands form the principal wealth of Peru ; that they are the sources of the guano which is furnished to foreign markets ; and that the accumulations formed in them are larger than those of all our other deposits united ; we think ourselves justified, in describing them, to advance somewhat beyond the limits which the nature of our work points out to us.

The appearance of these islands differs but little in regard to their general features, if they are compared to each other ; their mass rises gradually from the edges to the top, and may be of about the mean height of 110 yards each. Their geological formation is a well-characterized granite ; the guano is found deposited in parallel beds, sometimes undulating, and the principal colours in it are dark grey, light grey, ashy grey, a dirty white, and lastly red ; which colours do not appear to me to affect the quality of the guano, because the same fertilizing power is observed under them all.

Although nearly all guano-deposits are covered by the mechanical crust called "caliche ;" those of Chincha form an exception to the general rule : the guano is found pure from the surface, and the thousands of birds which produce these mines of wealth build their nests in excavations which they make in it.

Measurements.

The deposits in question were measured in 1842 by Señor Don José Villa, and four years after by Señor Rivero, of whom we have already spoken. The former made the amount to be 50,000,000 tons ; the latter abated two-thirds of this quantity ; and in order to explain the enormous discrepancy found in the two calculations, he says :

"The mean height of the islands in the outer border is ten yards, the parts more distant from it are twenty, and in the central parts only is the guano found to be forty yards deep. Señor Villá thought that the sum of all the successive workings up to the principal cutting was forty yards, whereas it was not more than fifteen; to this sum he added forty more for the principal cutting; a very grave error, because in order to admit it as a datum in any way probable, this central cutting must have extended uniformly to the edge, making the guano there eighty yards in height. And not even satisfied with this excess, he added that there were depths still more considerable, so that in his judgment the guano must have been one hundred yards deep or more, though the islands are barely so high above the surface of the sea. Observe also that with regard to the superficial amount, it was impossible for him to approximate to the truth, because the method which he employed is not susceptible of satisfactory results."

After having justified himself in these terms, and observing that at the foot of the deepest cutting of guano he made an excavation which showed the solid rock at a depth of three yards, he goes on to give an account of the plan which he followed for his topographical operations, and after making proper deductions of the produce, gives us the following results as approximative:

Islands.	Cubic Yards.	Tons.
Islands of the North	15,200,000	7,600,000
Islands of the Centre	12,900,000	6,450,000
Islands of the South	8,400,000	4,200,000
Total	36,500,000	18,250,000

Whence it appears that the Chincha Islands contain 18,250,000 tons of guano, according to the measurement which we are entitled to consider most reasonable.

III.

DEPOSITS OF THE NORTH.

This section is without doubt inferior to those which we have described, because, as it is chiefly composed of small and low islands, beaten by the winds in every direction, the quantity of manure they contain is in general of little thickness, and is frequently mixed with sand.

In the present state of the deposits of the north, they are barely sufficient to answer the demands of foreign consumption for one year; but if it be considered that their pure guano is of excellent quality, and that they are now the habitat of those immense clouds of birds which, disturbed by the operations of trade, are driven from the south and centre, and have taken refuge within their solitary boundaries, this part of our shore promises immense results for the future, as being called upon to renew the streams of public wealth, when the sources which now produce it shall be exhausted.

Four principal divisions may be established of the islands treated in this chapter, and considering them according to their respective importance, the first place is occupied by those called

Lobos de Tierra.

Thirty-five miles south-west of Lambayeque, or, what amounts to the same thing, in $5^{\circ} 6' 30''$ south latitude, are the Islands of Lobos de Tierra, a sort of group composed of one principal island (Lobos de Tierra, properly so called), three small islands, and several adjacent rocks.

Principal Island.

This deposit extends in the form of an immense oval, much compressed towards the centre and north. The guano does not cover equally the surface of the ground, which is interrupted by peaks and hollows but is found only at the bottom of the latter and on the salient promontories.

Adding together partial quantities which are found in the superior gorge, on Punta Colorada, and on another point opposite the Island of Felix Gonzalez, the approximate result is 150,200 cubic yards of guano, of a red and dark ash colour, which may contain some admixture of seal (lobo) guano.

Punta Corcobada.

A lofty promontory which forms an integral portion of the preceding island bears the name of Punta Corcobada (crooked), from its particular shape. Its extremely irregular surface abounds in a whitish guano which appears newly formed; it is not very thick, but to judge from its appearance, its quality is the best possible. This locality, by its structure, favours the accumulation of guano, and as it is also protected by the course of the winds, and as the gathering of birds is greater there than at any other part of the section under consideration, there is every reason to hope that in time it will become an important source of revenue.

The superficial extent of the Punta reaches 113,940 square yards, and the operations of measurement effected there give a result of 224,760 cubic yards of guano.

Isla Bermeja.

The Isla Bermeja, which is shaped like a spatula, is more than 300 yards west of the large island, and is connected with it by reefs of rocks which are covered at high tide. Its greatest length is 495 yards, its breadth 220, and it is 30 to 35 yards in height. The abundant guano which is found here is of superior quality, and on its surface we see the crust of saltpetre, which is so common in the guano-deposits of the south.

The area of the Isla Bermeja is 52,926 square yards; the greatest depth is 36 feet, and the amount of cubic yards upon it is 317,556.

Felix Gonzalez.

Felix Gonzalez is about a mile to the south-west of Punta Corcobada; it is 90 yards long, 70 broad, and 15 of elevation above the sea-level. The guano upon it is of superior quality; the thickness of the portion accumulated is of four or five yards, its area is 6,550 square yards, and the whole contents 26,200 cubic yards.

Isla Colorada.

This island is south-east from the principal island. It measures 336 yards in length and 180 in breadth, and its greatest height has been calculated at 25 or 30 yards above the sea-level. The primitive rock of which it is composed is covered entirely with guano, and its maximum of thickness found by excavation is 39 feet.

Although the predominant colour of the manure is red, as it might be expected from the name of the island, the interior layers are grey and also ash-coloured, impregnated with a strong smell of ammonia.

The island at this time is the centre of an immense concourse of birds, which build their nests both on the surface and in hollows formed within

it. Its superficial extent is 31,510 square yards, and the contents of the guano 236,300 cubic yards. About 600 tons of guano have been taken from this island.

Adding up now the result of all the measurements made in the present section, we shall have the guano contained in the Lobos de Tierra :

Deposits.	Cubic Yards.	Tons.
Isla Principal	150,900	75,450
Punta Cuscochada	224,760	112,380
Isla Bermeja	317,556	158,778
Felix Gonzalez	26,200	13,100
Isla Colorada	236,300	118,115
Total	955,716	477,850

Lobos de Fuera.

The name of "Lobos de Fuera" designates two islands situated in 7° 3' south latitude, and separated from each other by a channel, the breadth of which does not exceed forty yards, the direction of which is north-east and south-east (?). The foundation of these islands is slate, the surface very irregular, and the guano which they contain is abundant, though it appears mixed with seals' guano, because these animals (lobos) abound there. The birds dwelling there are very numerous; and among them the piqueros predominate.

The northernmost island not having been found accessible, the Government surveyor was only able to examine the southern island. The result of his calculation is, that it has an area of 292,380 yards square, and a volume of guano which reaches 531,436 cubic yards.

Islands of Guahape.

These are two islands situated in 8° 36' south latitude, about five miles from the coast. The foundation of both is granite, and the largest rises perpendicularly from the sea to the height of 175 yards. The guano found is in the northernmost island, and as it is of a pyramidal shape, whenever the wind blows, it falls into the water in considerable quantities. Notwithstanding these periodical losses, it is calculated that in 75,780 square yards of area there are 159,620 cubic yards of guano.

Islands of Malabrigo.

These islands are situated in 7° 48' south latitude, and there are considerable quantities of guano upon them; but they could not be surveyed in consequence of obstacles produced by bad weather.

Island of Santa.

The Island of Santa is found in 9° 11' south latitude, and it possesses but a few tons of guano of very recent formation. But if under this point of view it is not interesting now, it appears that an important part is reserved for it at a future time. According to the reports of the Indian fishermen on this coast, about fifteen or twenty years ago the surface of this island was a perfectly bare rock, on which not a single bird rested. Its aspect is now no longer the same; the manure begins to accumulate;

it is frequented by many guano-producing birds; and this vast area, formerly silent and deserted, is now without doubt the centre of new deposits of guano, prepared by Providence for future generations.

Islands of Ferrol.

The islands we now treat of are situated in $9^{\circ} 7'$ south latitude. They have no guano, and the greatest portion of what may be seen in a large hollow on the opposite coast is seals' guano. Nevertheless, there is some on both sides of the latter which looks like birds' guano; the deposit is of a triangular form, and the solid contents may be estimated at 61,400 cubic yards.

Island of St. Martin.

The Island of Martin, called also Donna Maria, is in $11^{\circ} 4'$ south latitude, opposite the village of Begueta, in the Province of Chancay.

In the year 1821 an hospital was established upon it for the treatment of the soldiers of the liberating army which landed on the shores of Huacho, under the command of General San Martin. At that time the surface of the island was bare like that of the Island of Santa. But it is now the habitat of innumerable birds, and it already contains accumulations of white guano, which are commonly taken away by the natives of the coast.

Marzoque.

The Island of Marzoque, situated in $11^{\circ} 25'$ south latitude, rises very ruggedly from the surface of the sea to the height of 150 yards. Its base is a primitive rock of difficult access, which it is not possible to overcome without exposure to great risks. Although Marzoque is now the dwelling of numerous birds, it has no considerable deposit of guano; and to judge from its structure, it seems that it could not any time have possessed any accumulation of importance. The Indians of Huacho catch a great many piqueros on this spot.

El Pelado.

The Pelado rock rises almost perpendicularly in the shape of a gigantic table, to the height of 200 yards, five miles to the south-west of the former island. Its white colour and peculiar form often cause it to be mistaken at a distance for a ship sailing, particularly when the horizon is clear. It contains very little guano; but as the birds which produce it abound there, it is frequently visited by the fishermen of Huacho, who contrive to get upon it by the aid of ropes, and fill their canoes with piqueros, huanaes, and eggs; which they gather in large quantities and sell for consumption in their district, in Callao, and in Lima.

Mr. Carter says that according to the information they themselves gave him, they consume about 24,000 birds every year, and about 12,000 eggs; from which it may be imagined to what a degree they destroy creatures which, for so many reasons, ought to be preserved.

Islands of Pescadores.

The peaks which bear this name, situated in $11^{\circ} 46'$ south latitude, are rocks spread about in the sea rather than real islands. They contain very little guano, of a dirty white colour, and of recent formation. Being of very limited area, they have no valuable deposits, although the birds which frequent them are very numerous, and of various sorts. What has been said of these islands may also be said of the Ancon Islands.

Las Hormigas.

A little island, surrounded by reefs in every direction, form the group called Las Hormigas, in latitude $11^{\circ} 56'$ south. There is some guano in the principal place, but the shallows not allowing an approach in keel-boats, Mr. Carter could not leap on shore, although he saw many Indians there catching the guano birds, who had succeeded in landing by the peculiar construction of their canoes. The Hormigas constitute the last deposit of guano on the northern side; and in order to give approximately a summary of all the measurements made in it, we will add together the several products :

Deposits.	Cubic Yards.	Tons.
Lobos de Tierra	953,716	476,858
Lobos de Fuera	531,436	265,718
Guañape	159,620	79,810
Ferrol	61,400	30,700
Total	1,706,172	853,086

From the preceding statement it appears that the guano accumulated in the northern deposits hitherto surveyed amounts to 853,086 tons.

And now, proceeding to add together all the totals found, we shall have as follows:—

General Statement.

Sections.	Deposits.	Cubic Yards.	Tons.	Total.
SOUTH ..	Chipana	561,204	280,602	7,921,407
	Huanillos	3,825,010	1,612,505	
	Punta de Lobos	2,921,580	1,460,790	
	Pabellon de Pica	5,950,000	2,975,000	
	Puerto Inglés	2,585,020	1,292,510	
	<i>Chincha Islands.</i>			
CENTRE ..	Northern Island	15,200,000	7,600,000	18,250,000
	Middle Island	12,900,000	6,450,000	
	Southern Island	8,400,000	5,200,000	
NORTH ..	<i>Lobos de Tierra.</i>			476,858
	Isla Principal	150,900	75,450	
	Punta Corcobada	224,760	112,380	
	Isla Bermeja	317,556	158,778	
	Felix Gonzalez	26,200	13,100	
	Isla Colorada	236,300	118,150	
	Lobos de Fuera	531,436	265,718	
	Guañape	159,620	79,810	
	Ferrol	61,400	30,700	
3	16	54,050,986	27,024,493	27,024,493

From which it is seen that the three sections into which we have divided the guano-deposits of the Republic consist of sixteen principal deposits, which contain 27,024,493 tons, according to the careful measurements made by the persons commissioned by Government.

Simplifying the preceding statement, we have the following

Summary.

Sections.	Deposits.	Tons.	Total.
SOUTH	Chipana	280,602	7,021,40
	Huanillos	1,612,505	
	Punta de Lobos	1,460,790	
	Pabellon de Pica	2,975,050	
	Puerto Inglés	1,292,510	
CENTRE	Northern Island	7,600,000	18,250,000
	Middle Island. . .	6,450,000	
	Southern Island	4,200,000	
NORTH	Lobos de Tierra	476,858	854,086
	Lobos de Fuera	265,718	
	Guañape	70,810	
	Ferrol	30,700	
3	12	27,024,493	27,024,493

Subsequent Discoveries.

However immense the quantity of guano may be which figures in the deposits above described, it is nevertheless very far from representing all the manure existing in the country; because, without reckoning the places which have not been visited in the sea, from the difficulty of approaching them, there are well-founded reasons to believe that the subterraneous deposits of Iquique, and the places covered with sand on the Punta de Lobos of the south, contain enormous quantities. Besides this, we have recently been informed by the press and by official documents, of the existence of other new deposits, as rich as those of Chinchu, unknown to the public, and brought to the notice of Government by Don Geronimo Fernandez.

No. 34.

Mr. Clark to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 7.)

My Lord,

Dundee, May 6, 1852.

I AM requested by the meeting of shipowners recently held here to forward the inclosed memorial.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WM. CLARK.

Inclosure in No. 34.

Memorial of the Shipowners of Dundee.

Unto the Right Honourable the Earl of Malmesbury, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Memorial of the Shipowners of Dundee in public meeting assembled,

Humbly sheweth,

THAT the memorialists beg most humbly to draw the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the fact, of large quantities of guano having been recently discovered on the Lobos Islands in the Pacific. The

memorialists are of opinion that most important beneficial results will be derived both to the agricultural and shipping interests of this country, by the British Government claiming the right to these islands.

If Her Majesty's Government, however, are of opinion that possession of these islands should not be taken for the British Crown, the memorialists would humbly but confidently trust, that Her Majesty's Government will take immediate steps whereby the rights of British subjects, equally with other nations, shall be maintained and vindicated, and the guano freely procured without restriction; and that no other nation may have the right to exclusive possession of the islands to the prejudice of British commerce.

Looking to the immense advantage to the agriculture of this country by a free importation of guano, and the benefits to be derived by the open competition for British shipping in the trade, the memorialists feel satisfied that the matter has thus only to be brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, to insure the adoption of what may be considered necessary to guard and protect British interests at these islands, and to prevent monopoly in the guano on the part of other nations.

May it therefore please Her Majesty's Government to take such steps as may be effectual for this purpose, and the petitioners will ever pray.

Signed in presence and by authority of the meeting,

WM. CLARK, *Chairman.*

Dundee, May 5, 1852.

No. 35.

Mr. Addington to Mr. Clark and other Dundee Shipowners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, May 11, 1852.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial which you addressed to his Lordship on the 5th instant; and I am to acquaint you in reply, that it appears that the Lobos Islands have been always considered by the Peruvian Government as belonging to Peru, and were surveyed and charted by that Government in 1847, and the quantity and depth of guano mapped for the Government.

I am to add, that whether this gives the Government of Peru a right to the Lobos Islands or not, it is certain that in consequence of the many articles appearing in the public papers, the Peruvian Government have notified their possession of those islands, and that they will resist any attempt upon them.

I am further to state that Her Majesty's Government are not at present prepared to protect British ships which should appropriate the guano on the Lobos Islands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 36.

Mr. Dallas to Mr. Cumming Bruce, M.P.—(Communicated to Mr. Addington by Mr. Cumming Bruce, May 12.)

Sir,

Inverness, May 10, 1852.

A PUBLIC meeting of landowners, farmers, merchants, and others, was held in Inverness on Friday, 7th instant, for the purpose of urging upon Her Majesty's Government the necessity of a speedy attention to the very important subject of free and more extended trade in guano.

The Committee appointed for carrying out the views and resolutions of this meeting, beg leave to inclose a copy of the memorial now under signature throughout the Counties of Inverness and Ross, and to request you, as representative of Elgin and Nairn shires, to use your utmost exertions towards the furtherance of this object, so essential to the agricultural and commercial interests of the constituency you represent, and of the public at large.

The Committee would also beg to call your attention to what appears to them a misconception on the part of the Foreign Minister in respect to our claims. The answer of Mr. Addington to the commercial house in Liverpool proceeds upon the grounds that while no claim has as yet been established by any other Government to the possession of these islands, no claim to their peculiar possession can ever be established by Great Britain. It is not the wish, nor would it in fact be to the interest of the petitioners, that any such peculiar claims should be made. The more completely the property of these islands is open to the world, the larger would be the competition, and the lower, in consequence, would be the price. Their object simply is, that until a sufficient claim to ownership of these islands shall be made out, British shippers shall receive the same protection as is afforded to all other branches of our sea-going trade, and that in the event of such a claim being allowed, the Government shall endeavour to secure the benefit of an uninterrupted trade in an article which you will observe has now become of vital importance to the general agriculture of the country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALEX. DALLAS,
General Secretary of Committee.

Inclosure in No. 36.

Memorial.

To the Right Hon. Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

The Memorial of the undersigned, owners and occupiers of land, ship owners, and others interested in the Counties of Inverness and Ross,

Humbly sheweth,

THAT their prosperity, and that of the agricultural community at large, is intimately concerned in obtaining supplies of guano at a price within their compass, and in quantities adequate to the demand; that they regard with lively interest the subject which has recently come before Her Majesty's Government and the public, in respect to the supplies of guano existing in the Lobos Islands; and that they humbly beg of Her Majesty's Government to take such steps as may secure a free and uninterrupted trade in that most important branch of commerce.

They, therefore, through your Lordship, do respectfully memorialize Her Majesty's Government to adopt such measures as may be necessary for protecting British ships in trading with the Lobos Islands.

No. 37.

Mr. Addington to Mr. John Rae.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 13, 1852.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which you addressed to Secretary Sir John Pakington on the 4th instant; and I am to acquaint you in reply, that it appears that the Lobos Islands have been always considered by the Peruvian Government as belonging to Peru, and were surveyed and charted by that Government in 1847, and the quantity and depth of guano mapped for the Government.

I am to add that, whether this gives the Government of Peru a right to the Lobos Islands or not, it is certain that, in consequence of the many articles appearing in the public papers, the Peruvian Government have notified their possession of those islands, and that they will resist any attempt upon them.

I am further to state that Her Majesty's Government are not at present prepared to protect British ships which should appropriate the guano on the Lobos Islands.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 38.

Mr. Addington to Mr. Cumming Bruce, M. P.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 17, 1852.

I HAVE laid before the Earl of Malmesbury the letter from Mr. Alexander Dallas, which you communicated to me on the 12th instant, inclosing a copy of a memorial proposed to be addressed to Lord Malmesbury by certain landowners, farmers, shipowners, and others in the Counties of Inverness and Ross; and I am directed by his Lordship to acquaint you in reply, for the information of the parties interested, that it appears that the Lobos Islands have been always considered by the Peruvian Government as belonging to Peru, and were surveyed and charted by that Government in 1847, and the quantity and depth of guano mapped for the Government.

I am to add that, whether this gives the Government of Peru a right to the Lobos Islands or not, it is certain that in consequence of the many articles appearing in the public papers, the Peruvian Government have notified their possession of those islands, and that they will resist any attempt upon them.

I am further to state that Her Majesty's Government are not at present prepared to protect British ships which should appropriate the guano on the Lobos Islands.

Lord Malmesbury directs me to transmit to you the accompanying translation of a note* which his Lordship has received from M. de Rivero, the Peruvian Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, stating the grounds on which the Peruvian Government claims the Lobos Islands.

I am to observe that all the *prima facie* evidence goes to prove that the Lobos Islands, each and all bearing Spanish names, belonged to Spain, and accrued, like her other possessions lying within certain degrees of longitude and latitude, to the Peruvian Republic and however advantageous it might be to Great Britain to appropriate these islands, or declare them common property, it is impossible for Her Majesty's Government to violate international law for national interest.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 39.

*Memorial from Owners and Occupiers of Land in Northampton.—
(Communicated by Colonel Maunsell, May 18, 1852.)*

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Malmesbury, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Memorial of the Undersigned, owners and occupiers of land in the County of Northampton,

Showeth,

THAT your memorialists have been informed, on good authority, that there are two islands, called Lobos Afuera and Lobos de Tierra, off the coast of Peru, both uninhabited and hitherto unclaimed either by the Peruvian or any other nation.

* No. 32.
M

That these two islands are covered with very extensive deposits of guano, and are accessible by shipping at all periods of the year.

That your memorialists have reason to believe that the said guano might be sold in England at five pounds per ton; whereas, in consequence of the oppressive monopoly at present enjoyed by the Peruvian Government, they now pay for the same article from nine pounds to ten pounds per ton.

That to obtain the said manure at so greatly-reduced a price, would be an important benefit to the farmer.

Your memorialists therefore respectfully pray your Lordship, as an act of justice, to take such steps for securing these islands as shall throw them open to trading-vessels; and that your Lordship will no longer allow the agriculturists of this county, who are struggling against difficulties imposed upon them by free trade in foreign corn, to be impeded in that struggle by the enormous duties levied by the Government of Peru on the importation of the foreign manure, so extensively used in England by the name of guano.

And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.
(48 Signatures.)

No. 40.

Mr. Addington to Colonel Maunsell, M. P.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1852.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial which you have presented to his Lordship, signed by a number of landowners of the County of Northampton, praying that Her Majesty's Government will take steps to insure the importation into this country, at a low price, of the guano to be found on the Lobos Islands, in the Pacific Ocean.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 41.

M. de Rivero to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 29.)

Excelentísimo Señor,

Londres, 28 Mayo de 1852.

CON fecha 4 del corriente y á consecuencia de mi entrevista con vuestra Excelencia el dia anterior, tuve el honor de dirigir á vuestra Excelencia una comunicacion relativa á las Islas de Lobos de Tierra y Lobos de Fuera, presentandole algunos informes y esplicaciones acompañadas de ciertos documentos que, en mi concepto, arrojaban bastante luz sobre el derecho perfecto de soberania que el Peru tiene á las mencionadas islas.

Aunque todavia no he tenido el honor de recibir contestacion á mi oficio del 4, creo conveniente molestar de nuevo la atencion de vuestra Excelencia para agregar otros datos que han llegado á mi noticia. He sido informado que hace algunos años, los Señores Prowse y Ca. y Poole y Ca. de Liverpool escribieron al entonces Excelentísimo Secretario de Estado de Su Magestad Británica para los Negocios Estrangeros, preguntando si podrian ir á cargar huano á las Islas de Lobos, y que Lord Palmerston les contesto negativamente, porque segun su creencia esas islas pertenecian al Peru. Ignoro si este caso es el mismo que el que vuestra Excelencia me indicó en la entrevista de ayer 27, en la que me dijo que Lord Palmerston habia contestado en años anteriores, que estaba persuadido que las Islas de Lobos pertenecian al Peru.

Sin embargo de que vuestra Excelencia tuvo á bien indicarme en esa misma entrevista que segun las apariencias, las Islas de Lobos eran

nuestra propiedad, no me parece inoportuno poner en noticia de vuestra Excelencia otra circunstancia que ha llegado á noticia de esta Legacion. Se me asegura que hace algunos años, el Gobierno del Peru notificó á los representantes extranjeros en Lima, para que las naves de sus respectivos paises no pudiesen ir á pescar (to seal) en las Islas de Lobos. Parece que esta notificacion fue debidamente aceptada por el Señor Belford Hinton Wilson, Encargado de Negocios y Cónsul-General de la Gran Bretaña en Lima, quien la trascibió á los Consules de su nacion en el Peru. No pudiendo yo á tamaña distancia de mi patria y en el presente caso imprevisto, tener á la mano esos documentos de mi Gobierno, debo suponer que existan en el Foreign Office comunicaciones de Mr. Wilson sobre el particular. Se me asegura tambien que este funcionario Británico se halla hoy en Inglaterra y podrá estar en situacion de suministrar á vuestra Excelencia informes aclaratorios en la materia.

Tengo, &c.

(Firmato) FRANCO. DE RIVERO.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

London, May 28, 1852.

ON the 4th instant, in consequence of my interview with your Excellency of the preceding day, I had the honour to address to your Excellency a communication relative to the Islands of Lobos de Tierra and Lobos de Fuera, presenting to you some notices and explanations accompanied by certain documents which, in my opinion, threw a sufficient light upon the perfect right of sovereignty which Peru possesses in the said islands.

And although I have not had the honour to receive any reply to my letter of the 4th, I must once more call the attention of your Excellency, in order to add some facts which have come to my knowledge. I have been informed that some years ago Messrs. Prowse and Co. and Messrs. Poole and Co. of Liverpool, wrote to Her Britannic Majesty's then Foreign Secretary of State, asking if they might go and load guano at the Lobos Islands, and that Lord Palmerston replied to them in the negative, because, as he believed, those islands belonged to Peru. I do not know whether this case is the same as that which your Excellency mentioned to me in the interview of yesterday, the 27th, in which you told me that Lord Palmerston, at a former period, had replied that he was persuaded the Lobos Islands belonged to Peru.

Notwithstanding what your Excellency said to me in that interview, that according to appearances the Lobos Islands were our property, it appears to me not out of place to bring to the notice of your Excellency another circumstance which has come to the knowledge of this Legation. I am assured that some years ago the Government of Peru announced to the foreign Representatives in Lima, that the ships of their respective countries could not go to seal in the Lobos Islands. It appears that this announcement was duly accepted by Mr. Belford Hinton Wilson, Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General of Great Britain in Lima, who sent copies of the same to the Consuls of his nation in Peru. Not being able at such a distance from my country and in the present unforeseen case, to have in my possession these documents of my Government, I must suppose that there are in the Foreign Office communications from Mr. Wilson upon this matter. I am also assured that this British officer is now in England, and may be in a position to give your Excellency some explanatory information in regard to this affair.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCO. DE RIVERO.

No. 42.

*Mr. Belford Wilson to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 11.)*31, Upper Berkeley Street, Portman Square,
June 7, 1852.

My Lord,

IN the year 1833, the Peruvian Government issued a decree prohibiting all foreign vessels from touching at the Lobos and other islands near the coast of Peru.

As in duty bound, I at once communicated a copy* and translation of this decree to Her Majesty's Government, and called its attention to the grounds by which the Peruvian Government had been actuated in its issue; and I moreover submitted to Her Majesty's Government the question of the right of Peru to these islands, amongst which those of Lobos were especially mentioned; and I finally stated they were valuable to Peru on account of the guano-deposits on them, an article which for six centuries had been extensively used in Peruvian agriculture, but which only since 1841 has become an export to England.

Lord Palmerston stated to me in reply, that there did not appear to be any grounds for disputing the right of Peru to the possession of the islands in question.

Her Majesty's Government have recently been urged to protect British subjects in carrying off guano from the Lobos, upon the plea that they do not rightfully belong to Peru.

As I do not myself entertain a doubt, nor ever have done so, that these islands do belong to Peru, and that during the Spanish dominion they were always held to be under the dominion of the Spanish Crown, I am convinced that the pretension of the British speculators forcibly to carry off guano from them, notwithstanding the fact of their actual occupation by Peru, and in defiance of the rights and laws of that Republic, is groundless and untenable; and as I am equally convinced that it would neither redound to the honour or well-understood interests of Great Britain, as a State, to put forth or to uphold pretensions, on the part of British subjects, that are not founded in justice or supported by international rights, it is with pleasure I have seen that your Lordship has formally declared that Great Britain, at least, has no claims to the possession of the Lobos Islands, and will not consequently protect British subjects in forcibly extracting guano from them, upon the plea that they belong to Great Britain, or else that Peru has no right to their possession.

Herewith I beg to inclose, 1st, an extract, with a translation, from Alcedo's "Geographical and Historical Dictionary of the Kingdom of Peru," &c., published at Madrid in 1787, in which the Islands of Lobos are specially described as comprised within the Vice-Royalty of Peru; and, 2ndly, an extract from an English translation of voyages to South America, by the celebrated Spanish navigators and men of science, Don Jorge Juan and Don Antonio d'Ulloa, published in London in 1772, from the Spanish original published at Madrid in 1748. In this extract, sailing directions are given for making the Port of Paita, and the Islands of Lobos are by name specially mentioned as one of the points to be made, or at least to be sighted by vessels bound to Paita; while the Lobos Islands are duly marked in the map which is bound up in the English translation of this work.

These writings, if they prove nothing else, prove at least that the occupation by Peru, of the Lobos, is not a recent pretension put forward subsequent to the discovery that guano is a valuable export to Europe, but, on the contrary, is founded on the notorious and undeniable fact, that these islands have ever been held by the Spanish Kings and Spanish authorities to be within the territorial jurisdiction of the Vice-Royalty of Peru; and it certainly is rather too late in the day for any country to dispute this fact, after it has been allowed to remain undisputed for upwards of a century.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BELFORD HINTON WILSON.

* See Inclosure in No. 1.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Extract from Alcedo's Dictionary.

"Diccionario Geográfico-Histórico de las Indias Occidentales ó América, es á saber: De los Reynos del Perú, Nueva España, &c. &c. &c. Escrito por el Coronel Don Antonio de Alcedo, Capitan de Reales Guardias Españolas. Tomo II. Con Licencia. Madrid: en la Imprenta de Manuel Gonzales. MDCCLXXXVII.

Pagina 599:

LOBOS, de la misma costa del Perú, en la Provincia y Corregimiento de Saña, llamada de Barlovento, para distinguirla de otra isla de esta provincia y reyno, llamada de Sotavento, que está al lado de la Punta de la Aguja.

Tomo IV, pagina 171 á 173:

Catálogo de las naciones bárbaras y principales lugares del Perú.

Islas.

Asia.	Iquique.
Cocos.	Lobos.
Dogs Eiland.	Mancera.
Guano.	Nonura.
Guara.	S. Lorenzo.
Huañape.	S. Martin.

(Translation.)

"Dictionary, Geographical-Historical, of the Western Indies or America, namely, of the Kingdoms of Peru, New Spain, &c. &c. &c. Written by Colonel Antonio Alcedo, Captain of the Royal Spanish Guards. Volume II. By permission. Madrid: in the Printing Office of Manuel Gonzales. 1787.

Page 599:

Seals Islands (Lobos), of the same coast of Peru, in the Province and District of Saña, called Windward, in order to distinguish it from another island of this province and kingdom, called Leeward, which is at the side of Needle Point.

Volume IV, page 171 to 173:

List of the barbarous nations and principal places of Peru.

Islands.

Asia.	Iquique.
Cocos.	Lobos.
Dogs' Island.	Mancera.
Guano.	Nonura.
Guara.	St. Lorenzo.
Huañape.	St. Martin.

Should it be necessary, Mr. Belford Wilson can procure in London the loan of a copy of Alcedo's Dictionary.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

*Extract from a Work by Ulloa *.*

THE following extract is taken from a work published in London in 1772, 8vo, 2 vols., entitled :—

“A Voyage to South America undertaken by command of the King of Spain, by Don George Juan and Don Antonio de Ulloa, both captains of the Spanish Navy, translated from the original Spanish, to which are added by Mr. John Adams occasional notes and observations and a map of South America,” being a translation from the work of Don Antonio de Ulloa, entitled “Relacion histórica del viaje á la America Meridional, &c., por Don Antonio de Ulloa,” published in Madrid in 1748, 5 vols.

Vol. ii, p. 192, book viii. chap. 1.

“The course generally steered from Callao to Paita is first west-north-west, till the ships are past the Feralones of the Islands of Guara. From thence north-west and north-west one quarter northerly to a latitude a little beyond the outermost Island of Lobos, or Wolves; afterwards they steer north and north-east till they make the continent within them, and which is continued in sight till they arrive at the Port of Paita, being very careful to keep a proper distance from Agujia, which is very low and projecting a great distance into the sea.

“Accordingly, cautious navigators, after passing the Islands of Lobos, steer a north course till they get in sight of that of Nonura.

“The land of the whole coast is low, but there are two signs which evidently indicate its being near. First, the sea-wolves, which are seen near these islands, and at three or four leagues distant from them. The second is the great flocks of birds all along this coast, flying two or three leagues from the shore in quest of food. And though fogs are very frequent here and so thick as to hide the land, yet its distance may be nearly known from these signs in the day-time, but at night more circumspection is necessary on account of the extreme lowness of the shore. And though the Islands of Lobos are something higher than the coast, too much caution cannot be used in approaching them.

“It is common in this voyage, if the ship is intended to touch at Paita, and has not had sight of the Islands of Lobos in the day-time, when in their latitude, to lie to all night. But if they do not propose to stop at Paita, proper attention must be given to the course and the voyage continued.

“If the ship be bound to Paita, there is a necessity for making these islands or the continent near them to the north, in order to avoid being carried beyond the port by the currents, as in such a case a great deal of time would be lost in getting back (para ganar su Barlovento), both the wind and currents being contrary.”

In the map in the first volume of the translated work, opposite the title, Lobos Islands are marked in their place.

The map in the Spanish work is in vol. iv, opposite p. 484, and contains the Lobos Islands.

Inclosure 3 in No. 42.

Extract from the “Glasgow Herald” of June 7, 1852.

IN another page we have given an account of a meeting of Dumfriesshire agriculturists, presided over by the Convener of the county, and at which resolutions were adopted, calling upon Government to take measures to open up to British commerce the fertilizing treasures of the Lobos Islands on

* Ulloa's Work, with its translation, may be had at the British Museum.

the coast of Peru. This subject is of intense interest to the British farmer, and the agricultural meeting in question is only the precursor of many others which are announced to be held in other counties.

The speakers at the Dumfriesshire meeting estimate the advantages to be derived from guano as of the last importance; and we observe that Mr. Laurie, Terreglestown, a practical farmer of high character in the district to which he belongs, calculates that by an extension of the guano import, for which this country could easily pay, food, viz., grain, beef, and mutton, might be readily raised to supply an increased population of 2,500,000 souls. This is a startling statement; and these are advantages altogether apart from the benefits which would accrue to the shipping interest by the carrying of such an immense quantity of agricultural raw material, so to speak, to this country.

The principal difficulty seems to arise from the question whether the Lobos Islands belong to Peru or not; for it is evident if that country has not a valid claim to them, then they belong to the world in common. We suspect, however, that the Peruvian Government will really be able to prove that these islands form part and parcel of the Republic. In this view we have been partly confirmed by the perusal of a fine old Spanish map and chart which has been shown to us by our townsman, Dr. Mathie Hamilton, who, we may add, resided in Peru a great many years, has five times doubled Cape Horn, and has crossed the Isthmus of Panama. The map has been in Dr. Hamilton's possession since 1833, and is of the style in which similar documents were executed fully 200 years ago; it is exceedingly distinct, and beautifully coloured, and the descriptive part is inscribed partly in Latin and partly in Spanish. It is entitled "*Pervviae Avriferae Regiones Typvs. Didaco Mendezio, Auctore.*"

Now, in about 6° 30' of south latitude, there are distinctly laid down a group of islands, inscribed "Isolas de los Lobos" (the islands of the sea-wolves or seals), which we take to be the islands in dispute, and which have been mentioned within the last fortnight by Captains Lawson, Peacock, and others.

Again, in about 13° south latitude, is laid down an island, inscribed "Isola de Lobos," which evidently refers to the guano group now known as the Chinchas. But more than this, it is stated in the bottom of the map, that "*Hae Insulae primum detectæ fueræ A°. 1574.*" i. e., "these islands were first discovered in the year 1574." Thus it would appear that these islands were discovered 280 years ago, and ranked as belonging to the Peruvian gold regions in a map apparently 200 years old. The longitude in this map is calculated from the city of Toledo in Spain.

But even though they do belong to Peru, it is never to be conceived that the Government of that country is to be allowed to keep under lock and key deposits of such immense importance to the universal human family. If the Peruvians themselves were prepared to use the guano within a reasonable period, or if they had done anything towards the collecting of it, their claim to shut out the rest of the world might be listened to. But at best they only claim or hold these islands by the accident of position.

We wish the agriculturists all success in their efforts to obtain access to these stores of guano. They only ask that in the event of the islands belonging to Peru, the monopoly be beaten down, and that the manure may be carried to Great Britain on payment of a reasonable "lordship" to the Peruvian Government.

While on this subject, the thought must strike every one that the guano, deposits, large though they may be, will one day or other be exhausted. Yet though we know this, and though we are willing to bring manure from the other side of the globe, at the cost of an immense amount of treasure, we yearly allow millions of tons of a far richer fertiliser to poison the waters of the Thames, the Mersey, the Clyde, and indeed every river in Britain.

ISLAS de LOBOS DE FUERA.

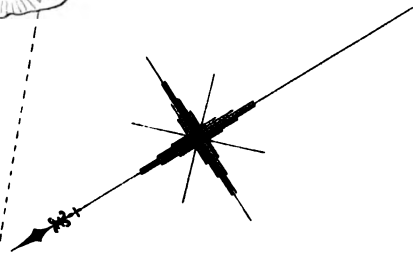
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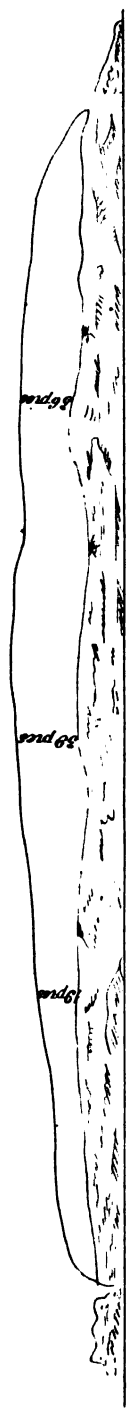
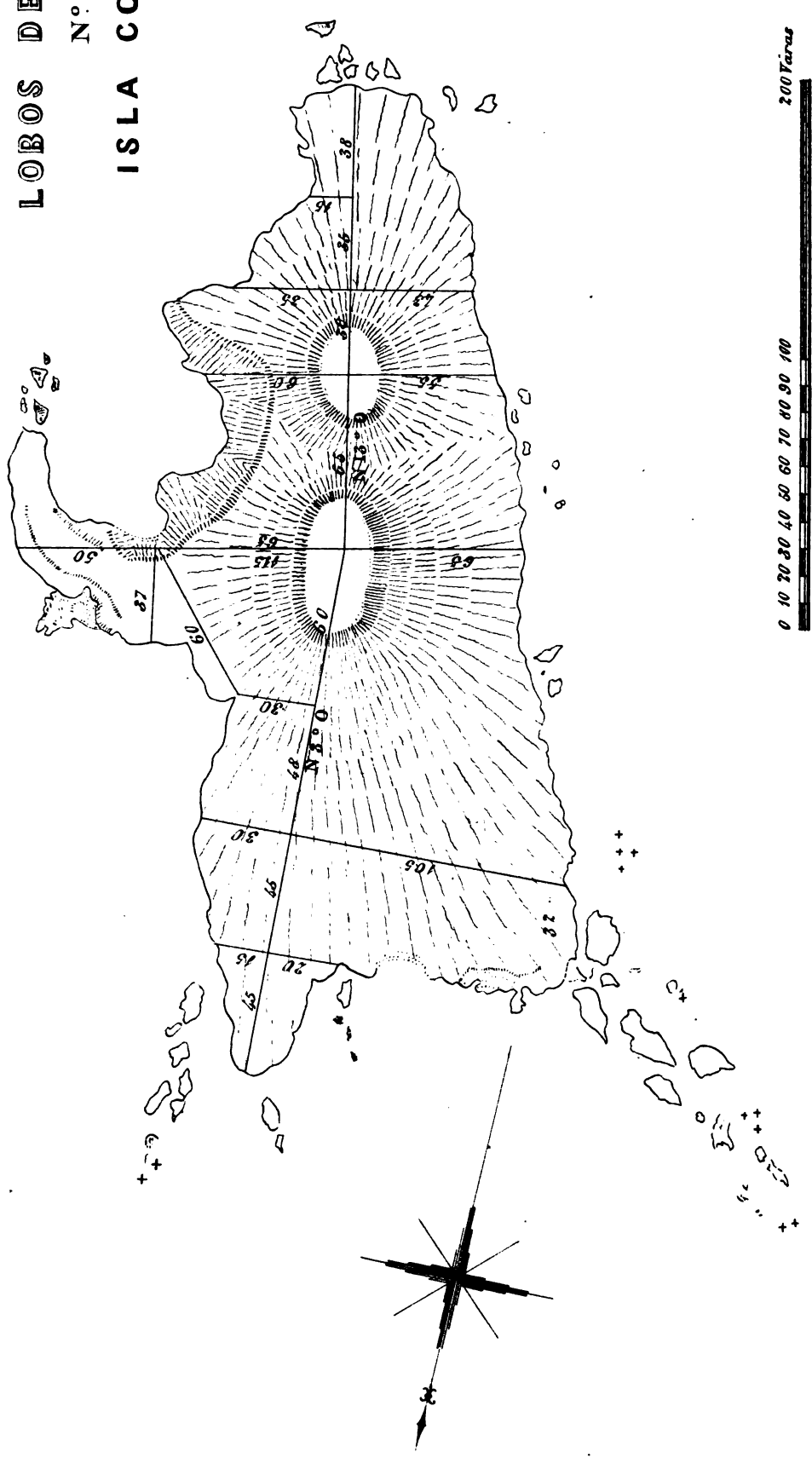


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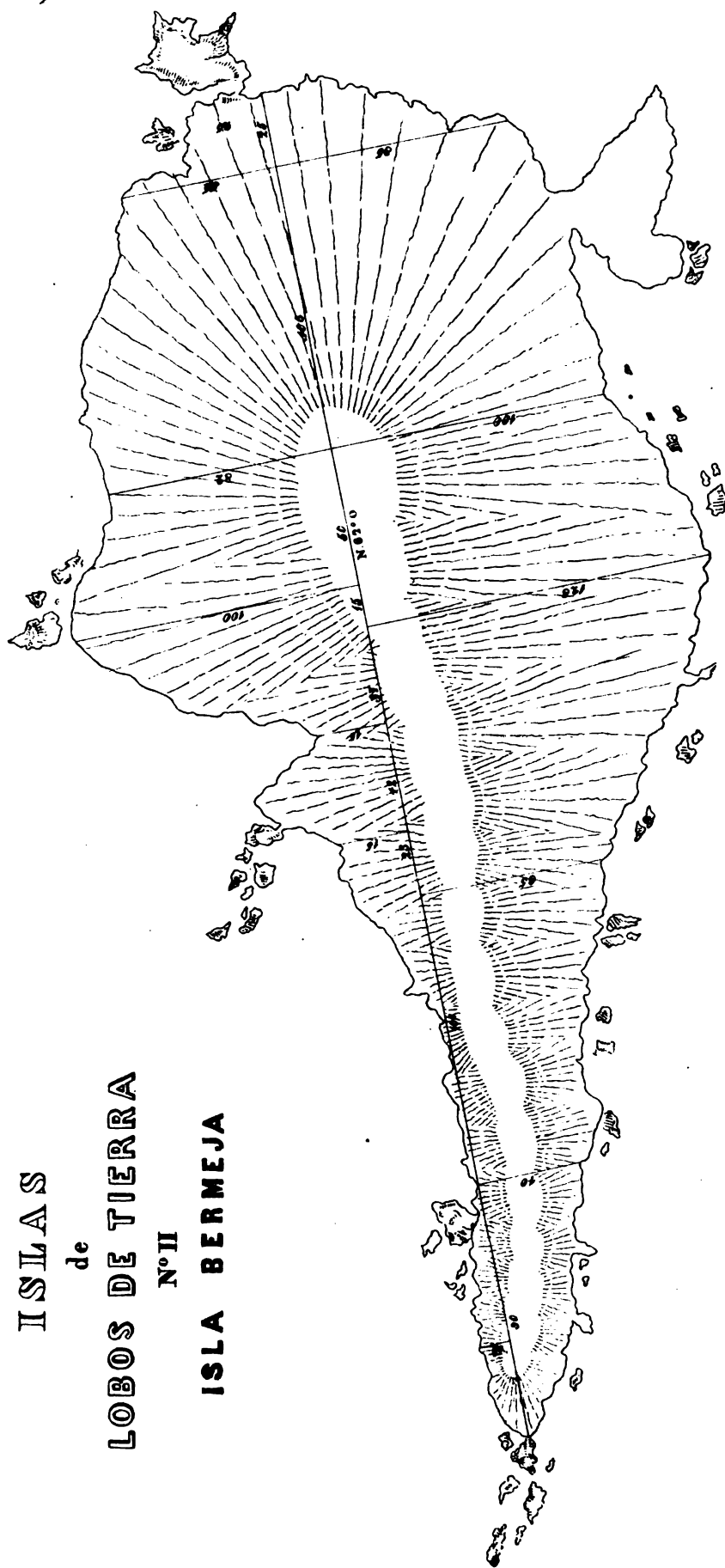
(Signed) E. O. Carter

LOBOS DE TIERRA Nº 1 ISLA COLORADA.



(Signed) E. O. Carter.

ISLAS de LOBOS DE TIERRA Nº II ISLA BERMEJA



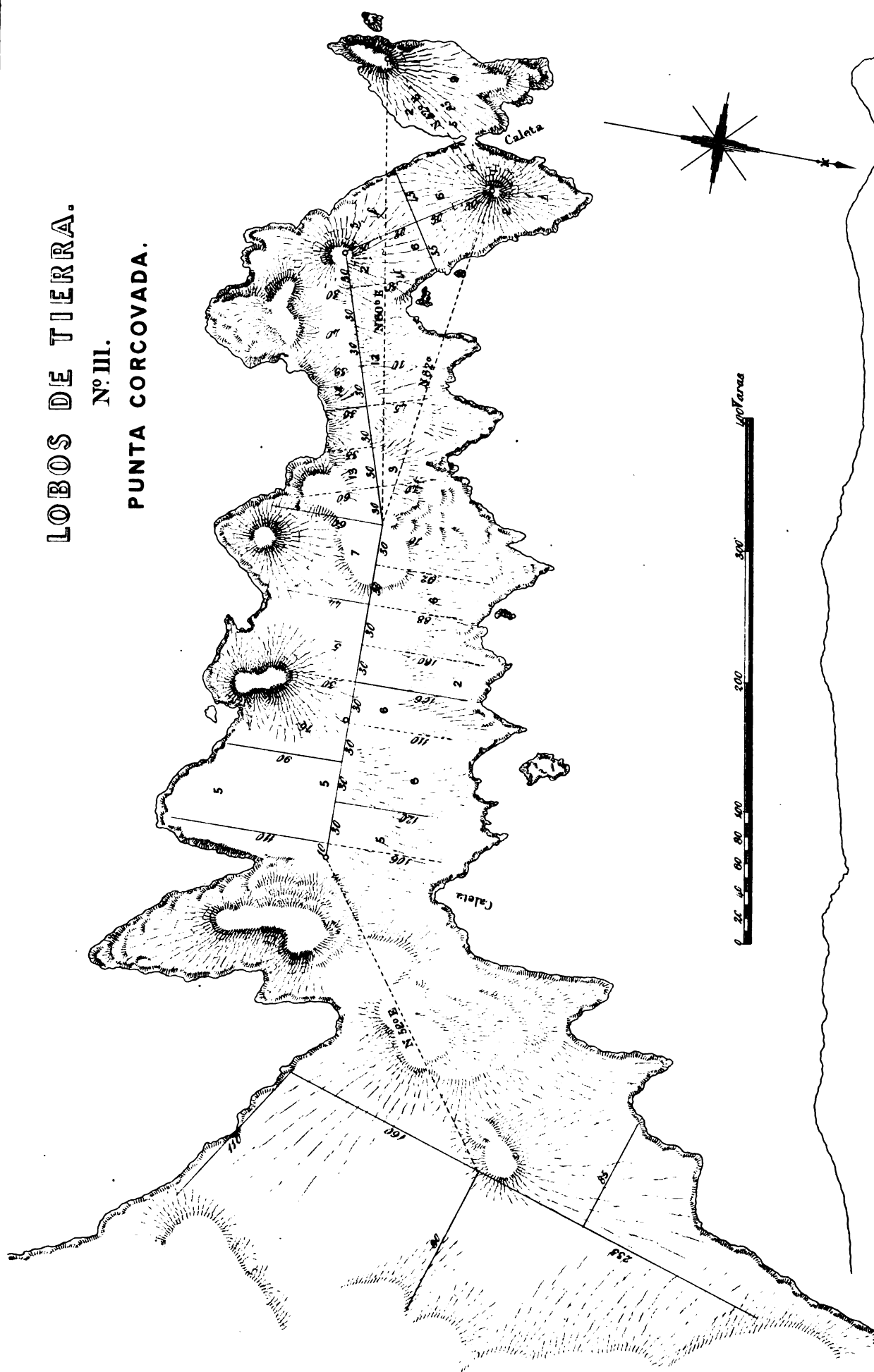
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(Signed) E. O. Carter

LOBOS DE TIERRA.

Nº III.

PUNTA CORCOVADA.

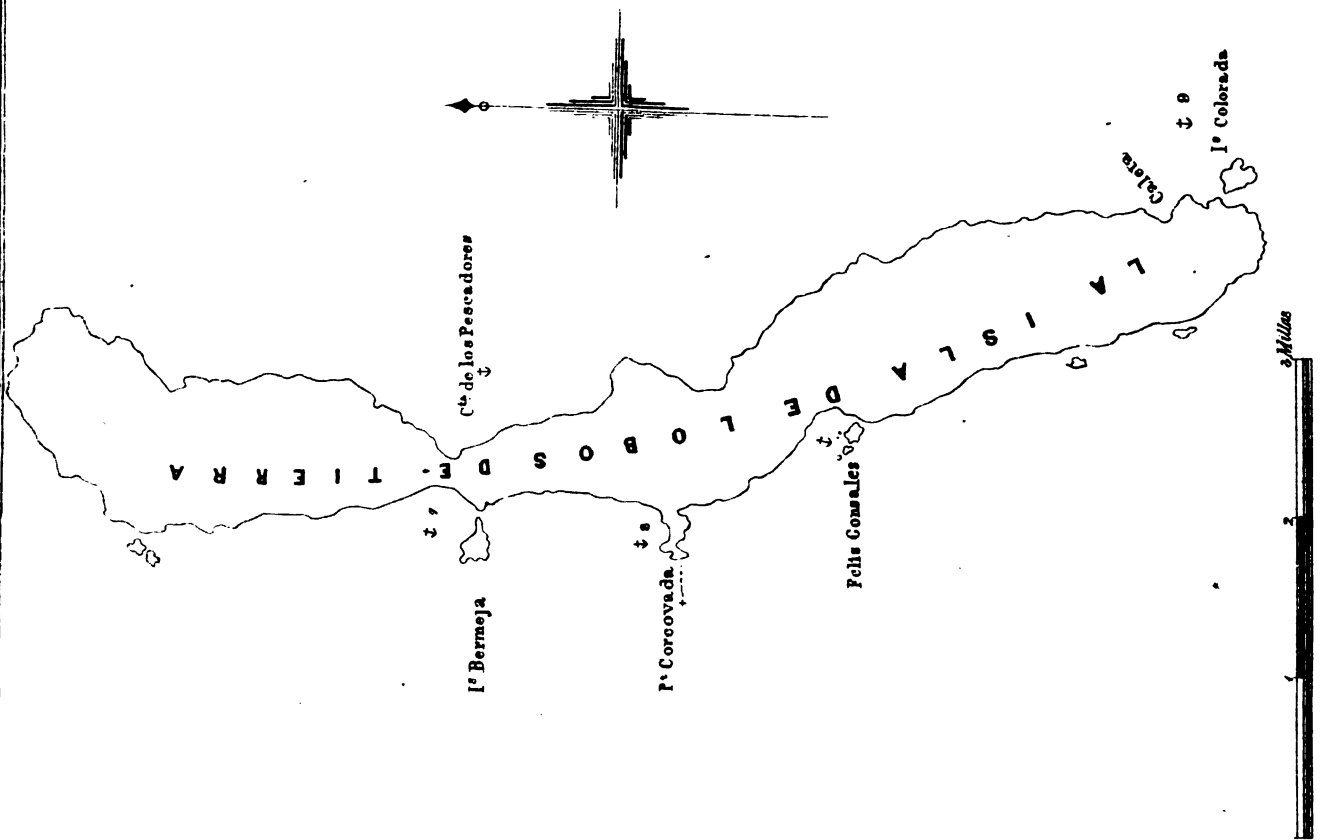
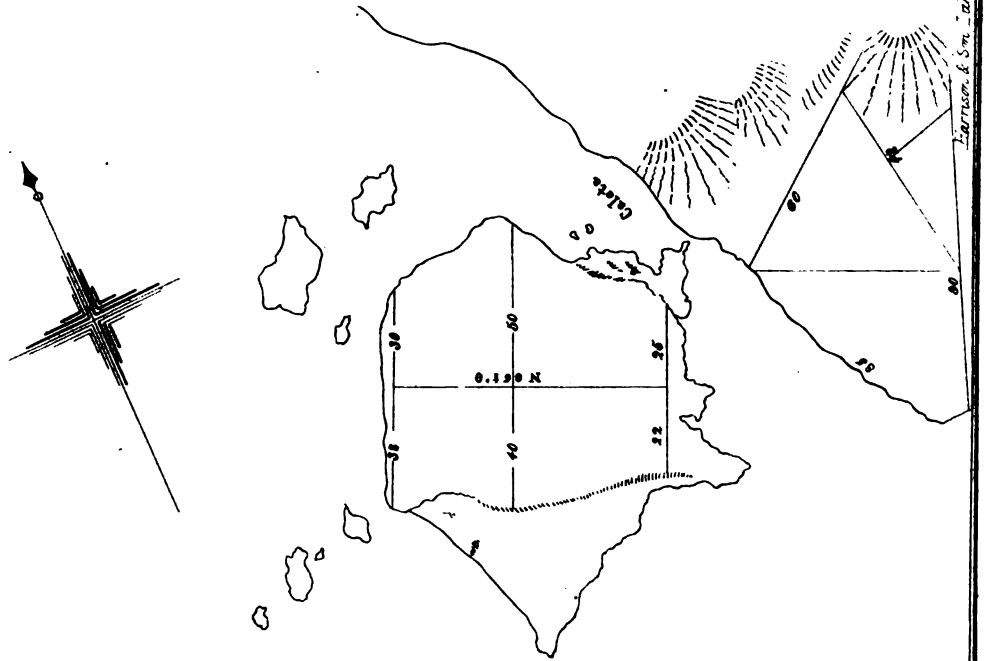


(Signed) E. O. Carter

LOBOS DE TIERRA

NºIV

FELIS CONSALES



(Signed) E. O. Carter

PAPERS

RELATIVE TO

THE REDUCTION OF LAGOS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S FORCES ON THE WEST

COAST OF AFRICA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1852.

LONDON :
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

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Papers relative to the Reduction of Lagos by Her Majesty's Forces on the West Coast of Africa.

No. 1.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, June 30, 1849.

REPRESENTATIONS having been made to Her Majesty's Government from time to time by persons engaged in legal trade in the Bights of Benin and Biafra, stating that it would be desirable that a person should be appointed to reside in that part of Africa as agent on the part of Her Majesty's Government, for the purpose of regulating the legal trade between British merchants and the ports of Benin, Brass, New and Old Calabar, Bonny, Bimbia, the Cameroons, and the ports in the territories of the King of Dahomey, Her Majesty's Government have determined to make such an appointment; and being informed by the Commodore commanding on the west coast of Africa, that it will be agreeable to you to hold it, I have to inform you that the Queen has been graciously pleased to confer that appointment upon you, and that a commission under the sign manual will be prepared accordingly, and will be transmitted to you at the same time with this despatch.

You have been selected for this appointment in consideration of your general knowledge of African affairs and of the habits of the Blacks, and because of the influence which you appear to have acquired over the native chiefs of the places to which your Consular jurisdiction will extend. That influence, it is hoped, may enable you to prevent quarrels and misunderstandings between those chiefs and the crews of British ships resorting to those parts for the purposes of trade; and thereby, on the one hand, legal commerce will be promoted, while, on the other hand, the Slave Trade, which can scarcely co-exist with legal commerce, will be much discouraged.

With a view to these results, you will endeavour to encourage the chiefs and people to till the soil and to produce available exports, so that they may obtain by barter the European commodities of which they may stand in need.

You will take every possible opportunity to impress upon the minds of the chiefs and their principal councillors, the great advantages which they will derive from the extension of legal commerce with the nations of Europe and America; and you will assure them that Her Majesty's Government earnestly desire to contribute to their welfare and improvement.

You will transmit to me, from time to time, the best information which you can procure as to the means by which commercial intercourse with the chiefs on the coast and in the interior can be extended, and as to the points of the coast which may appear to afford the greatest facilities for commerce; and you will also state what kinds of European commodities are most sought after by the natives.

It will be your duty at all times to keep up a cordial intercourse and good understanding with Her Majesty's naval officers on the West African station, and to communicate to them any information which may come to your knowledge from time to time respecting the Slave Trade; and Her Majesty's naval commanders will be instructed to afford you every facility and assistance in their power to aid you in the performance of your duties.

You will receive in other despatches general instructions for your guidance in your Consular functions, and also in matters relating to the Slave Trade.

No. 2.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1849.

I TRANSMIT to you letters which I have addressed to the several chief on the western coast of Africa, within the district of your Consulship.

You will take a convenient opportunity to present these letters to the chiefs on the coast, when you will explain to them the nature and object of your appointment. I inclose a copy of the said letter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Letter to be delivered to African Chiefs.

THE Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, has commanded me to acquaint you that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant a commission appointing Mr. John Beecroft, the Governor of the Island of Fernando Po, to be Her Majesty's Consul to the several chiefs on the western coast of Africa.

It will be a principal duty of Mr. Beecroft to endeavour to prevent the frequent misunderstandings which have arisen between the chiefs on that coast and the British merchants, and the crews of British vessels resorting to those parts for the purposes of trade; and he will also be instructed to encourage and promote legitimate and peaceful commerce, whereby the chiefs and people may obtain in exchange for the products of their own country, those European commodities which they may want for their use and enjoyment.

In this manner the great natural resources of your country will be developed; your wealth and your comforts will be increased; and the detestable practice of stealing, buying, and selling men, women, and children, which is now the bane and disgrace of Africa, will be put an end to.

The Queen's Consul is instructed to take every suitable opportunity to explain to you the great advantages which you will derive from the increase of a legitimate commerce; and he is instructed to assure you of the earnest desire of the Queen's Government to contribute in every way to your welfare and prosperity.

The Queen trusts you will receive Her Majesty's Consul with the respect due to his character and rank, and that you will put entire faith in what he shall state to you in Her Majesty's name.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 3.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 23, 1850.

LIEUTENANT FORBES, of Her Majesty's Navy, and the late Mr. Duncan, who had been appointed Vice-Consul in Dahomey, went up in October last from Whydah upon a mission from Her Majesty's Government to the King of Dahomey. The object of their mission was to induce that African chief to put an end to the Slave Trade in and through his dominions, and Mr. Duncan delivered to him two letters, of which the inclosed are copies, urging him to do so, and setting forth arguments to show that by so doing he would promote, instead of injuring, his own interests and those of his subjects.

You will be furnished with copies of the despatches from Lieutenant Forbes and from Mr. Duncan, giving an account of their proceedings while employed on this service, and of what passed between them and the King of Dahomey; and I have to request that you will make yourself acquainted with their contents.

You will see by those despatches that Lieutenant Forbes and Mr. Duncan were most kindly and hospitably received by the Dahomey Chief, and that they were assured by him of his sincere and anxious desire to secure for himself the friendship and good-will of the Queen of England, by following, as far as it is possible for him to do so, any advice which Her Majesty's Government might give him; but he said that the profits which he derived from the Slave Trade constituted a considerable part of his revenue, and to put an end to that Traffic would be to sacrifice a material portion of his income. He said that, therefore, he must have time for full consideration and mature deliberation before he could answer the letter which Mr. Duncan had delivered to him; but that if Lieutenant Forbes and Mr. Duncan would come back to him, as he requested they would, at his next annual Custom in March of this year, he would then be prepared to give his answer to Her Majesty's Government.

As Mr. Duncan has been unfortunately lost to Her Majesty's service, I have to instruct you to accompany Lieutenant Forbes on his return to Dahomey, being satisfied that your judgment and discretion, together with your practical knowledge of the character and habits of the African races, peculiarly fit you for the performance of this duty. You will therefore proceed in Her Majesty's ship "Sphinx," which will convey you direct to Whydah, where it is probable that you will find Lieutenant Forbes; but if he should not be there he will be sent for, and you will await his arrival, which will not be long delayed, and you will in any case, immediately on your landing at Whydah, send up to the King of Dahomey to inform him of your arrival on the coast and of your intended visit to Dahomey.

You will proceed to Dahomey as soon as Lieutenant Forbes and yourself can set out for that place together.

If on your arrival at Dahomey, the King should declare himself ready to enter into the engagement which was proposed to him for the abolition of the Slave Trade in and through his dominions, you will, of course, at once proceed to conclude with him a treaty to that effect, somewhat in the terms of the short and simple form of which I inclose a draft*. But the likelihood is that he will hold to you about the Slave Trade the same sort of language which he held on that subject last October to Lieutenant Forbes and Mr. Duncan; that he will profess his anxious desire to comply with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, but will plead financial considerations as reasons why it is impossible for him to do so.

In that case you will endeavour to explain to the Chief that the profits which he derives from the Slave Trade are precarious in their nature and limited in their extent. That they mainly depend upon the presents which the slave-dealers on the coast may be able to make to him, or upon duties paid to him on the passage of slaves through his territory, or on

* See Inclosure 20, p. 27.

the price which he may obtain for captives taken in those warlike expeditions, the cost of which must in some measure absorb the profit which he may make by selling his prisoners. That the continued measures of various kinds which the British Government are taking with a view to suppress the Slave Trade tend every year more and more to hamper the transactions of the slave-traders established on the coasts of his territory, and thus to diminish progressively the means of those slave-traders to make him presents or to pay duty on the passage of slaves through his dominions, or even to purchase the prisoners of war whom he may wish to sell. That, on the other hand, his territories abound with resources for legitimate trade, and that if he was to employ his great power and authority for the encouragement of legitimate commerce, as a substitute for the Slave Trade, he would very soon find that he would derive from moderate and reasonable customs duties a much greater and far more certain revenue than he at present receives from the Traffic in Slaves. Such legitimate commerce the British Government would use every proper endeavour to encourage and protect, and the interest of the King of Dahomey in regard to such trade would be identical with that of the British Government; and the States of Dahomey and Great Britain, instead of being, as now, kept in some degree on different courses, in regard to their supposed interests, in consequence of their different views and opinions with respect to the Slave Trade, would be drawn together in close bonds of union by their common feelings and mutual interests in regard to the protection, encouragement, and extension of legitimate commerce.

The foreign merchants established at Whydah are already beginning to see the great advantages which are to be derived from legitimate commerce; and whereas some years ago they were almost all of them engaged, chiefly if not entirely, in the Slave Trade, it appears that now they almost all of them have dealings in the palm-oil trade nearly as extensive as the dealings which they have in the Slave Trade.

But palm-oil, though a commodity much valued and wanted in Europe, and the exportation of which from Africa to Europe has been yearly increasing, is not the only produce of that part of Africa which could be the subject matter of extensive and profitable commerce between Dahomey and Great Britain. Cotton of excellent quality might be produced in almost any quantity within the territories of Dahomey, and any quantity of cotton there produced would find a ready and profitable market in the manufacturing districts of the United Kingdom. The cotton so sent to Europe would of course be paid for by such European commodities as might suit the wants and tastes of the people of Dahomey, and moderate customs duties levied upon the importation of such commodities would soon afford a considerable and an increasing revenue to the King.

But the King of Dahomey might probably object that the loss which he would sustain by the suppression of the Slave Trade would be certain and immediate, while the profit which might accrue to him from import duties on legitimate trade would be uncertain, and at all events not arising until after some lapse of time.

To obviate this objection, if made, you are authorized to say that if the King Dahomey would immediately and entirely put an end to Slave Trade in and through his dominions, the British Government would engage to make him for a limited time, say three years, an annual present as a compensation for the loss which he would during that period sustain, it being reasonably to be expected that by the end of such a time legitimate commerce would have afforded him an income which would fully make up to him for the loss incurred by the cessation of Slave Trade. Her Majesty's Government must leave it to your discretion to make with the Chief the best arrangement which you can on this head, and you are authorized, in case of necessity, to promise an annual present, either in money or goods, at the option of the King, to be continued for three years.

If you can conclude a satisfactory arrangement, on this principle, you will draw up and sign with the King a treaty to that effect.

You will express to the King of Dahomey the deep concern felt by

Her Majesty's Government at the death of the late Mr. Duncan, a concern which they are convinced is fully shared by the King, whose kind and friendly conduct towards Mr. Duncan afforded Her Majesty's Government the highest gratification; and you will say that Her Majesty's Government hope to be able to appoint some fit and proper person to be Vice-Consul in Dahomey in the place of Mr. Duncan.

You will of course transmit to me a full report of all your proceedings in the execution of these instructions, and when this service has been completed, and when proper opportunities offer, you will visit the different chiefs in the neighbouring country to whom you are accredited as Her Majesty's Consul, and you will present to them respectively the letters which I have addressed to them by the Queen's commands, and which are inclosed in my despatch of the 30th of June, 1849, explaining to them at length the nature and object of your appointment, as described in your general instructions.

After these services shall have been performed, and when other and more immediate duties will permit, you will at a suitable season proceed on a mission to Abbeokuta, for which I will furnish you with instructions in another despatch.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey.

Foreign Office, May 29, 1849.

THE Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, has commanded me to acquaint you that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to direct Mr. John Duncan, the bearer of this letter, to reside for the present in the territories of Dahomey as the British Vice-Consul.

It will be a principal duty of Mr. Duncan to endeavour to prevent the misunderstandings which may have arisen between the chiefs on the coast of Dahomey and the British merchants and the crews of British vessels resorting thither for the purpose of trade; and he is also instructed to encourage and promote legitimate and peaceful commerce, whereby the chiefs and people may obtain in exchange for the products of their own country, the European commodities which they may want for their use and enjoyment.

In this manner the great natural resources of your country will be developed; your wealth and your comforts will be increased, and the detestable practice of stealing, buying, and selling men, women, and children, which is now the bane and disgrace of Africa, will be put an end to.

The British Vice-Consul is instructed to take every suitable opportunity to explain to you the great advantages which you will derive from the increase of a legitimate commerce; and he is also to assure you of the earnest desire of the Queen's Government to contribute in every way for your welfare and prosperity.

Her Majesty's Government trust you will receive the British Vice-Consul with the respect due to his character and rank, and that you will put entire faith in what he shall state to you in the name of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey.

Foreign Office, May 29, 1849.

THE Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, commands me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 3rd* of November, which I have laid before Her Majesty, and to thank you for your friendly

* See next Paper.

assurances. The British Government is glad to find that you wish the Slave Trade to be put an end to in all places beyond the limits of your territories, because that wish on your part shows that you are sensible of the bad nature of that Trade.

With regard to your own dominions, you may be quite certain that if you would stop the Slave Trade, and if you were to encourage legal commerce instead of Slave Trade, your revenue and the profits of your people would not be diminished, but would very shortly be much increased; for it is well known that agriculture and commerce are more useful and advantageous than the stealing and selling of men, women, and children.

With respect to the other matters touched upon in your letter, I will write to you on another occasion.

I avail myself of the return of Mr. Duncan, whose appointment as Vice-Consul in your dominions I have notified to you in another letter of this day's date, to send to you a few articles of British manufacture, which Mr. Duncan informed me you had expressed a desire to have, and which Mr. Duncan will deliver to you as a present from Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Letter from the King of Dahomey to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, alluded to in the preceding.

Abomey, November 3, 1848.

THE King of Dahomey presents his best compliments to the Queen of England. The presents which she has sent him are very acceptable, and are good for his face.

When Governor Winniett visited the King, the King told him that he must consult his people before he could give a final answer about the Slave Trade. He cannot see that he and his people can do without it. It is from the Slave Trade that he derives his principal revenue. This he has explained in a long palaver to Mr. Cruickshank. He begs the Queen of England to put a stop to the Slave Trade everywhere else, and allow him to continue it.

The King is anxious that the Queen of England should send a Governor to Whydah Fort, in order that he may have an opportunity of seeing the manner in which the King governs his people.

The King also begs the Queen to make a law that no ships be allowed to trade at any place near his dominions lower down the coast than Whydah, as by means of trading-vessels the people are getting rich, and withstanding his authority. He wishes all factories for palm-oil removed from Badagry, Porto Novo, Agado, and Lagos, as the trade that is now done at these places can be done at Whydah, and the King would then receive his duties, and be able to keep these people in subjection; and also in the event of his attacking these places he would not run the risk of injuring Englishmen or their property.

He hopes the Queen will send him some good Tower guns and blunderbusses, and plenty of them, to enable him to make war. He also uses much cowries, and wishes the Queen's subjects to bring plenty of them to Whydah to make trade. He wishes to see plenty of Englishmen making trade at Whydah.

The King has spoken all his mind to Mr. Cruickshank, who can explain what is fit for the King and his country. He begs the Queen of England to continue his good friend, as he likes Englishmen more than any other people.

Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Centaur," off the Gallinas, November 17, 1849.

I HAVE to request you will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that having received, whilst at Loanda, an application through the senior officer of the division in the Bights, from Mr. Duncan, the recently appointed Vice-Consul to Dahomey, dated 10th August, in which he states that since his arrival at Whydah, he had received three messengers from the King of Dahomey, requesting that a British naval officer should accompany him in his mission to his capital, Abomey, and begged that I would accede to His Majesty's wish; I, after due consideration of their Lordships' desire that I should, in compliance with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, afford Mr. Duncan every assistance in my power, and aid him in the performance of the duties

confided to him; decided to accede to the application, and sent instructions to the senior officer to permit Lieutenant Forbes, of Her Majesty's brigantine "Bonetta," to accompany Mr. Duncan, provided he felt equal to undertaking the journey; and I furnished Lieutenant Forbes with a letter to the King of Dahomey, and instructions, of which I inclose copies.

2. I selected Lieutenant Forbes for this duty, as an intelligent young officer, who has now had considerable experience of the trade on the coast of Africa, and who from his inquiring and active habits I considered would be a valuable companion and assistant to the Vice-Consul, and that he might be able possibly to effect a step in advance towards the suppression of the Slave Trade in Dahomey, and to obtain much accurate information on the subject.

3. In pursuance of these directions Lieutenant Forbes accompanied Mr. Duncan to Abomey, and I have now the honour to transmit, for their Lordships' information, the report of his mission received from him on his rejoining my pendant yesterday; and I hope their Lordships will consider that the result has justified the measure I took, and the trifling expense which has been incurred, and that it will be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government.

4. The friendly disposition towards us manifested by the King will be increased and fostered, I hope, by further intercourse, and be the means of neutralizing the powerful influence exercised over him by the Portuguese and Brazilian slave-dealers.

5. There is no doubt that this has been obtained chiefly by large presents which must have materially added to their expenses, and that the King's avarice and thirst for luxuries having been thus fed, he will not be disposed to abandon the Trade without some equivalent; but his strongly expressed wish for Lieutenant Forbes' return to Abomey in March for his definitive answer, I think encourages the hope that a favourable impression has been made upon him, and his feelings and doubts on the subject kept alive; and though I had instructed Lieutenant Forbes to act with regard to a treaty, I did not really anticipate that His Majesty would be prepared to commit himself to the abandonment of a traffic which is his chief source of wealth, and has been the ruling principle of action with himself and his chiefs and people through life.

6. He, the King, is a complete despot, and not easily approached by his Ministers; and Lieutenant Forbes had not the opportunity of ascertaining what the inclinations and feelings of the Caboceers or chiefs were on the subject of the Trade; but I imagine they have all been largely bribed and rewarded by the slave-dealers, and that it will be difficult to lead them to a change of the occupation which has engrossed all their previous thoughts, and by which their habits and modes of life have been formed.

7. No agent, or "Charchar," has yet been appointed in Senhor da Souza's place; his sons do not appear by Lieutenant Forbes' account to be near so wealthy as was expected, and this may be favourable.

8. It is my intention, therefore, if circumstances permit, to comply with the King's wish, and direct Lieutenant Forbes to proceed again to Abomey; guarding him particularly with respect to any treaty or agreement with the King being subject to ratification, and to assure His Majesty that so far from permitting any embarkation of slaves at Whydah, the most uncompromising opposition to the Slave Trade will be maintained by Her Majesty's forces, and that, with the concurrence and co-operation of the Powers allied with us in more restrictive measures, I entertain little doubt of its annihilation.

9. I trust that their Lordships and Her Majesty's Government will not consider that by taking upon myself to do so, I have exceeded the limit of my instructions to do everything in my power towards the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves on the west coast of Africa, or departed unnecessarily from the usual course of service.

12. Should a Consul be permanently established at Whydah, I am of opinion it will be necessary that he should be afforded the means of communicating with men-of-war and ships at the anchorage, and be rendered independent of the English or foreign merchants, or native chiefs; but the

canoes required for that coast are large, and would require ten or more Kroomen.

13. I regret to say the Vice-Consul has been obliged to embark on board the "Kingfisher," very ill with dysentery.

Inclosure 4 in No. 3.

Commodore Fanshawe to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.)

"Centaur," Loanda, September 3, 1849.

MR. DUNCAN, the newly-appointed Vice-Consul to the Kingdom of Dahomey, has applied for an officer of the navy to accompany him on his mission to the King of that country.

I hope he may have been able to defer his visit until this despatch reaches you, in which case you will forthwith acquaint Mr. Duncan, that I have nominated Lieutenant Forbes, of Her Majesty's brigantine "Bonetta," to accompany him, provided Lieutenant Forbes feels he is equal to undertaking the journey; and you will arrange for the "Bonetta's" joining you, and direct Lieutenant Forbes to put himself in communication with Mr. Duncan without delay, giving Lieutenant Forbes the instructions for his guidance which I inclose.

Inclosure 5 in No. 3.

Commodore Fanshawe to Lieutenant Forbes.

(Memorandum.)

"Centaur," Loanda, September 9, 1849.

MR. DUNCAN, recently appointed by Her Majesty's Government to be Her Majesty's Vice-Consul within the dominions of the King of Dahomey, being about to proceed on a special mission from Whydah to the King's capital, has represented to me that His Majesty has sent three times to him, expressing to him a wish that he might be accompanied by a naval officer; and considering that a compliance with the King's wish may give additional importance to Mr. Duncan's mission, and further the views of Her Majesty's Government with reference to the suppression of the Slave Trade, I have decided to permit a naval officer to accompany him, and I have selected you for the purpose, provided you feel equal to undertaking the journey, as an officer who has had now considerable experience on the African station, and acquired some knowledge of the native languages and habits. You will therefore put yourself forthwith in communication with that gentleman at Whydah, and in case of your accompanying him, you will be guided in your conduct and interview with the King of Dahomey, by the following instructions, in as far as, on conference with the Vice-Consul, you find they are in no respect at variance with those he may have received from Her Majesty's Government.

You will deliver the accompanying letter from me to the King, at your first interview.

You will be prepared to appear at his Court in the full-dress uniform of your rank, and in every respect to maintain the character of a British officer.

You will be strictly guarded in all your intercourse with the native chiefs and others, to give no cause of offence, bearing in mind their superstitious character and habits.

You will make it your first object to support the position of Mr. Duncan as the Diplomatic Agent of Her Majesty the Queen.

The Slave Trade without doubt has been long and actively pursued within the Kingdom of Dahomey, and the power and wealth of the King, and the extent of his dominions, has enabled him to supply the dealers on the coast to any amount. Your next great object will be to obtain the most accurate information in everything connected with that question.

The recent death of the wealthy Brazilian slave-dealer, Da Souza, at Whydah, who has been supposed to be an agent of the King of Dahomey,

and to have had some influence with him, appears to afford a favourable opportunity of approaching the King again on the subject of the abolition of the Slave Trade within his dominions. You will therefore avail yourself of any opportunity in conference with him or his chief people, to impress them with the greater benefit they must derive from retaining their people in their own country for the cultivation of the soil, and the extension of commerce by the exchange of its products for articles of European manufacture and general legal trade, than by the cruelty of selling them to a slave-merchant, to be carried away to enrich another country; and you will endeavour to explain to the King and chief people, that the great desire of your Sovereign and her people is to see Christianity introduced into every part of Africa, and thereby to increase the civilization, welfare, and happiness of her people; and that knowing that the great benefits of peace and commerce have been the happy results in all those parts where the Slave Trade has been abolished, and general trade for the produce of the country introduced, Her Majesty would receive with much pleasure any intimation from the King of Dahomey, of his desire to do the same, and make a treaty with her for the purpose.

You will also assure the King and his chiefs, that it would be a great satisfaction to me if I could be the instrument of promoting the wishes of my Sovereign, and of effecting such a treaty on the part of Her Majesty with them, and thereby establish a cordial and lasting good understanding between the Sovereigns and people of both countries; and if you succeed in attracting attention to the subject, you will endeavour to ascertain the King's view, and on what terms he would be disposed to execute any such treaty. I hardly expect he is so prepared at present; but I furnish you with blank Forms of treaties such as have been concluded with the African chiefs, for your guidance, and authorize you to act, in case any opening is afforded you, to their extent.

You will thank His Majesty for the countenance and support already afforded to the English and American missionaries who have come to reside within his country, for the sole object of promoting the happiness of his people, by the introduction of the Christian religion, and beg his continued protection of them; and, if opportunity is afforded, you will express to the King how contrary the practice of human sacrifice is to the principle of that religion, and how gratifying it would be to your Sovereign the Queen to know that the King had ordered it to be discontinued within his dominions.

I hope Mr. Duncan may be able to accomplish the object of his mission quickly, and that you may be able to return in three weeks to Whydah; at any rate you must not let your absence be prolonged unnecessarily beyond that time. You will prepare and forward to me a full and detailed report of all your proceedings, and of any expenses incurred; and, on your return to Whydah, you will receive orders from the senior officer of your division for your further guidance.

Before leaving Abomey you will inquire for any reply from the King to my letter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 3.

Commodore Fanshawe to the King of Dahomey.

"Centaur," Loanda, September 10, 1849.

To the most renowned King of Dahomey, the Commander-in-chief of the squadron of Her Majesty the Queen of England on the coast of Africa, wishes health, peace, and the blessing of God.

Sire,

I HAD heard with great satisfaction and pleasure, from Mr. Duncan, of your Majesty's wish to see an officer of my mistress, the Queen of England, at your capital.

C

I hail your wish as an additional mark of amity towards my Sovereign and the British nation, and I am happy to avail myself of any opportunity that may make your Majesty better acquainted with the officers of the Queen of England, hoping and believing that it will lead to increased friendship and lasting attachment between my Sovereign and yourself and your respective subjects; and in compliance with your Majesty's wish, I do myself the honour to inform your Majesty, that I have deputed one of the good and trusty officers of the squadron of the Queen of England which I command, Lieutenant Frederick Edwin Forbes, commander of the brigantine "Bonetta," to repair, with Mr. Duncan, to your Majesty's Court, and present himself before you with this letter. He, Lieutenant Forbes, is an officer of merit and intelligence, and he is acquainted with my sincere desire to cultivate a good understanding with your Majesty, and with my views and sentiments as to the surest means of increasing the friendly alliance already existing between yourself and the Queen of England, by the extension of legitimate commerce between the two countries, and for this end, the increased cultivation of the soil throughout your Majesty's vast dominions, and the prevention of the Traffic in Slaves on the shores of your kingdom.

I know the great power and influence of your Majesty, spread over a vast extent of territory; I feel certain it is your Majesty's desire to increase the happiness and welfare of your subjects; and I pray and hope you will be brought, through the blessing of that Almighty and great God who directs the hearts and hands of all Kings and Queens, to perceive that your real power and wealth, the happiness and welfare of your subjects, and the general cause of humanity will be best promoted and extended by prohibiting the sale of your Majesty's slaves and subjects to European merchants, to be carried away from their country to enrich and cultivate a foreign land, instead of being retained to labour and develop the immense resource of your own.

Sire, I hope and pray, when your Majesty gives yourself time to consider the subject in your wise mind, you will come to this conclusion and be disposed to make a treaty of amity and commerce with Her Majesty the Queen of England, my illustrious Sovereign, who with her people has so much at heart the desire to see the people of Africa partaking of those benefits which are to be derived from the Christian religion, increased cultivation of the soil, and the promotion of commerce.

In conclusion I thank your Majesty, on the part of my Sovereign, for the protection you have at different times afforded to such of Her Majesty's subjects as have visited Dahomey, and especially to the Christian missionaries at Badagry and Abbeokuta, and beg your further countenance of those good men.

May God grant your Majesty a long life and guide you aright in all things, giving you increased power and wealth to be used for the benefit of your subjects and the dispersion of your enemies.

I am, &c.

(L.S.)

(Signed)

ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 3.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commander Harvey.

Sir,

Whydah, October 4, 1849.

IMMEDIATELY on landing I requested Mr. Duncan to peruse my instructions from Commodore Fanshawe, and received from him the request that I should accompany him to Abomey, in order that all the requests of the King might be attended to, the only one not hitherto arranged being his thrice-repeated request, that an officer might be sent from the fleet to visit. Mr. Duncan is of opinion that such a visit, being in accordance with His Majesty's especial wish, will at least much assist him when he returns at the Customs, and the King has it in his power to give a final answer, being then attended by his Cabooceers (or Superintendents of Trade).

As I am desired in my instructions to state any expenses that may be incurred, I have to report to you that the present to the King has already been made, and that Mr. Duncan has only sufficient to ensure a good reception at the Customs. Understanding that a present is necessary (both from Mr. Duncan and the Cabooceers), I have purchased two pieces of silk for 3*l.* 15*s.*, twenty-five gallons of rum, 4*l.*, which with the subsistence for bearers will form the only expenses.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

Inclosure 8 in No. 3.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.)

Whydah, October 6, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to state that yesterday Mr. Duncan and myself had an interview with the Cabooceer (Governor), the French merchant (M. Blancheley) attending, and at the request of the Caboceer, Mr. Hastie also.

The Cabooceer sent for Mr. Duncan and myself this morning and we were received most politely.

A messenger was instantly sent to the King to acquaint him of my arrival, and it appears to be necessary that we should wait until his return, before leaving this, that being the custom of the country, and any attempt to oppose such custom would at least give great offence.

It would appear that the Customs to the memory of Da Souza are drawing to a close, and that the King has sent to inform the Portuguese merchant Domingo Martinez, now living at Porto Novo, that if he will come to Abomey he shall be received as Charchar, but he is only to come on condition that he settles at Whydah, which it is not expected he will do, as he is carrying on a lucrative trade there.

We cannot now start before Wednesday or Thursday, but as everything will be ready by the return of the messenger, no delay will take place after his arrival. I do not apprehend a lengthened delay at Abomey in consequence of the absence of the Cabooceers, but Mr. Duncan is of opinion that the King will be much pleased with his wishes being so minutely attended to, and be better prepared to conform with the wishes of the Government at the Customs.

Inclosure 9 in No. 3.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.)

Whydah, October 8, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that this day the Cabooceer paid me an official visit, and brought with him forty soldiers to salute, who kept a constant fire during the conference. His visit was of the most friendly order.

He hoped I should explain that the Fort was much out of repair; spoke of the good feeling existing between the King of Dahomey and the Queen of Great Britain; and was in every way complimentary both to Mr. Duncan and myself.

The Fort saluted the King of Dahomey with twenty-one guns, while we drank his health, and afterwards saluted the Cabooceer.

The Portuguese merchants are entirely aloof, and there is some secret agency working against Mr. Duncan. What the intention is, time may show.

The messenger will probably return from the King on Wednesday, and we may start on Thursday. The delay I find to be actually according to the country customs, and although very disagreeable, must be complied with.

Inclosure 10 in No. 3.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commander Harvey.

Sir,

Whydah, October 11, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to state that last evening at 7 o'clock the King's messenger returned, bearing His Majesty's stick, and a request that Mr. Duncan and myself would immediately proceed to Abomey. It was delivered by the Cabooceer's headman, on his knees, and face on the dust.

Every opposition that can be has been made by the Portuguese merchants, luckily without any serious consequence; but the difference of reception to what ought to have been offered to me on landing was yesterday illustrated on the arrival of a Portuguese supercargo (I believe of a slave-vessel), who landed a few days back at Popo, and reaching the King's custom-house at Whydah by a lagoon, was met by all the Cabooceers and some 500 soldiers, who saluted him.

Great excitement prevails among the Portuguese merchants as to the cause of my mission, and several expedients have been tried, without effect, to discover its purport.

The greater part of our goods go to-day, and we proceed to-morrow; when we return is of course uncertain, but I do not expect to be more than twenty days from this date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

Inclosure 11 in No. 3.

*The King of Dahomey to Commodore Fanshawe.**Abomey, October 18, 1849.*

THE King, in answer to the Commander-in-chief's letter, has to state that at this moment he is alone in his capital, and unprepared for a final answer to his letter.

At the Customs, which take place in the early part of March, he will be surrounded by his Cabooceers, and be ready to give a direct answer to the Commander-in-chief's request concerning a Treaty for the abolition of the foreign Slavery.

The King is much pleased with the assurances of the goodwill of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain toward himself and subjects; in return for which His Majesty will at all times afford protection to all British subjects, missionaries, or traders, or others visiting the Kingdom.

The King requests that Lieutenant Forbes may be present at the Customs and receive his final answer.

The King begs to state that originally the French were the first whites in Whydah, but after his grandfather made war with that country, the English were the first who settled there, and became his friends, and since then they have been the first.

That in the meantime he hopes the Commander-in-chief will not allow slave-vessels to be taken in the roads of Whydah, as being under his protection.

Given, &c.

(Signed) GUEZO, *King of Dahomey.*

Drawn up by me at the King's dictation,

(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta."

Witness to having heard the above dictation, and to the King's holding the pen while his name was written.

(Signed) JOHN DUNCAN, *Vice-Consul.*

Inclosure 12 in No. 3.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Extract.)

"Bonetta," at sea, November 1, 1849.

PURSUANT to your orders dated September 9, 1849*, I have the honour to lay before you a full and detailed report of my proceedings on a journey to Abomey, the capital of the Kingdom of Dahomey, on such matters as are of interest to Her Majesty's Government, written in the form of a journal.

October 3, 1849.—Arrived at Whydah; found at anchor Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher."

Commander Harvey having explained to me the difficulties (reported to the Commander-in-chief) he had encountered in communicating with Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, I proceeded to the back of the surf, and sent a Kroo canoe with three Kroomen, to ascertain its extent and exact state. The Kroomen effected a landing; but in attempting to return, the canoe was broken in pieces.

October 4.—Having borrowed the Kroo canoe belonging to Commander Harvey, I entered her at the back of the surf, still very high, but had no sooner attempted to land, than the canoe was capsized and broken; after much danger, assisted by the three Kroomen who landed yesterday, I swam on shore.

(For detail of my communication with the Vice-Consul, see letters 1, 2, 3, and 4, addressed to Commander Harvey.)

October 5.—Visited the Viceroy. Having been introduced by Mr. Duncan, and having explained my views, the Vice-Consul took advantage of the opportunity to explain to the Viceroy that the French house of Blancheley had offered him the keys of the French Fort for transmission to the King (they intending to return to France), unless their trade, which had been stopped, was reopened. Mr. Hastie, agent for Hutton and Co., who was present at the Viceroy's request, in a most unwarrantable manner, stated that unless the French trade was reopened, the men-of-war would enforce it. I instantly desired Mr. Hastie to be silent; yet the threat was no sooner made, than the Viceroy rose in a furious passion, saying, "If you wish to break this country, you can do so: go! go!" He then retired; but entering a few minutes after, pointing to me, he asked why I remained. I told him I was waiting until his passion was over, to shake hands with him, and to explain to him that he must be labouring under a false impression, if he imagined either Mr. Duncan or myself had hinted any threat. This cooled him, and shaking hands, I left the house.

October 6.—The Viceroy sent at an early hour to desire an interview with the Vice-Consul and myself. On arriving at his house, we were ushered into a private apartment, and soon explained how much he had been mistaken in Mr. Duncan's intentions. I am of opinion that yesterday the Viceroy was inebriated, and possessed with a false impression of our intentions. I am fully aware that Mr. Hastie had told him that Mr. Duncan was a private individual, formerly a soldier, and now passing himself off as a Consul, without authority. I gleaned from Mr. Hastie's own words that he had hinted to the Viceroy that I had no further claim to a visit to Abomey than that of an officer on leave; and to prove it, he, the Viceroy, should demand to see my papers before he allowed me to proceed. In consequence of the above, I had provided myself with my instructions, which I produced unasked. Mr. Hastie had to pay a fine for his interference; such fines, in the idiom of the Dahomian language, are termed "wiping the mouth."

After much conversation, the Viceroy assuring me that he now understood the Vice-Consular position, begged, in the idiom of the language, that "the palaver might be set," to which I consented, or, in other words,

* See Inclosure 5, page 8.

not to mention again the insult of yesterday. He now received my seal to send to the King, to ask permission for me to proceed to Abomey.

October 7.—I inspected the British Fort, which is in a most disgraceful state of want of repair, and unworthy the name it bears; the guns all dismounted, and the walls in a dilapidated state. By a letter shown me to-day by Mr. Hastie, the firm of Hutton and Company, London, claims the property of the Fort, and in consequence their agent has placed Mr. Duncan and his two countrymen in two apartments totally inadequate to their wants. Their agent retains the key of the Fort, and shows no respect to the Vice-Consular authority; on the contrary, strives in every way in his power to draw down the ridicule, not only of the native authorities, but also of the Portuguese and other merchants, and, as far as he is able, to render Mr. Duncan's residence as uncomfortable as he can to himself, and his official position nugatory. The British Fort has, I am informed, never been repaired at the expense of Messrs. Hutton, but by the King obliging the English Town people to work at a nominal subsistence, paid by Messrs. Hutton as a moderate tax. I am not prepared to state whether Messrs. Hutton support their agent as the aggressor to the interests of the British Government, but from the recent date of the letter above quoted, and ocular demonstration, I am led to believe they do; consequently, I addressed a letter to Mr. T. Hutton, the African partner at Cape Coast, of which the following is a true copy:—

“I have the honour to state that having arrived at Whydah *en route* to Abomey, on a special mission, I suffered so much in the performance of my duty from the unprincipled conduct of your agent, that I feel it my duty to make official report thereof to the Naval Commander-in-chief. I therefore thus acquaint you, in order that should his acts against the interests of the British Government not meet your approbation, or be contrary to his orders from you, you may be prepared to explain the same when called upon. I have further to add that a letter was shown me, stating the British Fort to be the property of Messrs. Hutton, with which assumption I acquainted His Majesty of Dahomey; and that I feel called upon to report the dilapidated condition in which I found the Fort, and the extreme misery of the apartments (2) afforded to Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, Mr. Duncan; and in consequence that I, a British officer, felt it incumbent on me to seek lodgings elsewhere.”

A great assistance in annoyance is rendered by the parties being aware that the Vice-Consul is an unpaid officer; and Mr. Duncan being a poor man, can by no means disburse, as is the custom in Dahomey, where poverty is a crime unpardonable; hence I am not exceeding the plain truth when I assert that far from an unpaid Consul ever adding to the interests of his Government, he must daily be doing harm, and bringing that Government into contempt. I do not think a merchant Consul of any kind can answer,—that office should be paid above the desire to trade.

In Dahomey all preliminaries are settled by presents, and I witnessed a disbursement on the part of Don Domingo José Martins, of goods to the amount of 5000 dollars, most of them given, I understood, to counteract any injury my visit might have caused to the interests of the slave-merchants.

The public square (Whydah) ran with rum from three pipes started for the mob to wallow in. Thirty-five pipes of rum besides silk and cowries (the currency of Dahomey) were sent to the King. The Viceroy and all the Cabooceers were large receivers. These presents are common to all slave-merchants, and the late Senhor da Souza is said to have paid 1000*l.* annually (in goods) besides presents. At this moment, except Domingo Martins, there are none who can afford large gifts.

In Whydah there are a great number of returned slaves (liberated Africans) from Sierra Leone and Bahia. This day (Sunday) all were gaily dressed, the Bahians walking to and from church; but the Sierra Leone people told me with regret that they had no church.

In the whole Kingdom of Dahomey there is but one Christian place of

worship, the Catholic chapel of the Portuguese Fort. The religion of the Dahomian is of the worst order of paganism,—worshipping a snake of the boa constrictor species.

The French Fort is in a most respectable state of repair. The Portuguese one moderately so.

The town of Whydah is divided into five portions, or krooms, each under the superintendence of a Cabooceer or Yavogau. They are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1st. French Town. | Dagbah, the Viceroy. |
| 2nd. English Town. | Shechleeler, Cabooceer. |
| 3rd. Portuguese Town. | Borgnen, Cabooceer. |
| 4th. Charchar Town. | Guodeferei, Cabooceer. |
| 5th. Viceroy's Town. | Ahtinderhood, Cabooceer. |

It is thus divided by order of the King, and the people of each town work for the merchants of that people its name represents.

October 8.—The Viceroy visited me officially, attended by a company of soldiers, who kept up a constant independent fire during the interview, as a salute to me. During the conference he begged I would report to the British Government the dilapidated condition of the Fort, and the imperfect state of its batteries. He was very condescending, and particularly civil.

October 9.—Mr. Hastie has raised a report that the Portuguese merchants charged him with having given information to Commander Harvey, whereby Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher" captured a slave-brig. He having reported the same to Commander Harvey, that officer empowered me to contradict it; but on inquiry all the respectable merchants declared they never hinted such a charge. It was most probably invented to lead me to suppose he (Mr. Hastie) was entirely independent of the slave-merchants.

October 10.—This day, the supercargo of a slaver having landed at Popo, arrived, and was received by the Viceroy in state, under the fire of some hundreds of musketry. After meeting him at the end of the town, the Viceroy paraded the whole of Whydah, attended by the Cabooceers under huge painted umbrellas, and accompanied by band of music and standards.

In the evening the messenger returned from the King, commanding that I should immediately proceed to Abomey, attended by Mr. Duncan. As protection he sent his stick, a gold-headed Malacca cane, which was presented to me by the Viceroy's headman, with his head on the ground, and throwing dirt on his head.

October 11.—Hired bearers, sixteen for hammocks, and twenty men and women to carry cowries, rum, and baggage, and sent the latter on the road.

October 12.—Visited the Viceroy on leaving, who received the King's stick, and having prostrated himself, and placed dirt on his head, returned it to me, adding that with that I wanted no protection, but to supply my wants and assist me as a linguist, he gave me his hand and foot,—his headman, Narwhey.

October 13.—Arrived at the royal city of Allahdah, having passed through a fine park country, intersected by corn and ground-bean farms; not a pebble or stone of any kind is to be seen between this and Whydah, twenty-eight miles. At Allahdah one human skull is exposed, that of a man found in the royal harem.

On the 5th day of our journey we arrived at the royal city of Canamina, or Camioh, and thence sent a messenger to inform the King of our arrival. The country passed has been very regular and level, except in the neighbourhood of an extensive swamp, about fifty miles from Whydah, where there is a slight irregularity. In the vicinity of this swamp there is much ironstone, sandstone, and conglomerate. It is surrounded, and has been the bed of a lagoon or river, and bears every appearance of a coal deposit. In the afternoon the messenger returned.

October 17.—Started in full uniform for the capital, distant ten miles. Having entered the gate of the city, which is ornamented with human skulls, and in the vicinity of the principal Fetish-house, we halted, and

taking position in chairs across the road, waited for the ceremony of being met by the Cabooceers. In a short time an immense crowd advanced towards us, with banners flying among them.

At some distance they halted, and the Governor of the city, at the head of a few soldiers, advanced. When arrived in front of our position, he countermarched, and made a circle from left to right three times round our seats, bowing each time he came in front. On the last time he fired off a musket, and danced before us; then having shaken hands, took a seat.

One of the King's brothers next performed the above ceremony; then a band of the royal household, chanting a welcome, followed by other Cabooceers; lastly two regiments of musketeers and one of blunderbussmen; these last having passed, commenced an independent fire, while we were regaled with spirits and water sent by His Majesty. The whole then re-formed in procession, and entering our hammocks, they preceded us to the Palace-yard.

The square in front of the Palace, though extremely large, was densely crowded with armed men and women squatted on their hams, their long Danish muskets standing up like a miniature forest. Scores of banners of all colours and devices added to the scene, those of the King surmounted by a skull.

The Palace wall, of red clay, standing about twenty-five feet high, extending over more than a square mile, was one continued line of human skulls, yet it might be remarked that where decay had destroyed, these ghastly ornaments were not replaced; on the thresholds and sides of the portals of the Palace were also human skulls; but the practice of human sacrifice is fast vanishing from the Kingdom of Dahomey.

The palaces of Dahomey are extensive harems, entered only by the King and eunuchs, except at the Customs, when they are thrown open to the inspection of all visitors.

In the centre of the wall open upon the square is a huge gateway over which a roof is built, under this, on a mat, lay the King. The gates thrown open discovered at least 3000 of the royal wives richly dressed, while immediately around the Monarch stood his Ministers, Cabooceers, and favourite wives, magnificently attired.

Notwithstanding the vast concourse in the square, the ground was well kept, marked out by bamboos; a road was formed round the square through which we were carried three times, still preceded by the Cabooceers, who each time they passed the King prostrated and threw dirt on their heads; etiquette simply required us to bow. After the third round we left our hammocks, and, still preceded by the chiefs, slowly approached the King, who now rose to receive us. When within a few paces the Cabooceers made a lane and again prostrated and kissed the dust; through this lane we advanced and shook hands with the King.

King Guezo is about forty-eight years of age, good-looking, with nothing of the negro cast of countenance, his complexion wanting several shades of being black; his appearance is commanding, his countenance intellectual, though stern. That he is extremely proud there can be no doubt, for he treads the earth as if it were honoured by its burden. Contrasted with the gaudy attire of his Ministers, wives, and Cabooceers (of every hue), laden with ornaments of coral, gold, silver, and brass, the King was plainly dressed in a loose robe of yellow silk slashed with satin stars and half-moons; he wore Mandingo sandals, Spanish hat trimmed with gold lace; the only ornament being a small gold chain of European manufacture.

Having taken seats round the Royal mat we soon entered into a complimentary conversation, the Prime Minister whispering into the Royal ear, the interpreter not being allowed to address the King directly in matters of compliment.

The King now introduced me to his Ministers: Mayo, Prime Minister; Meigau, of Police; Cambodee, Treasurer; Maehaepah, Justice; Toonoonoo, Eunuch-in-chief; then to an elderly lady called the English Mother, named "Yawae," one of the matrons of the harem who

provides food for English visitors. Next all the Cabooceers were introduced.

The King then expressed a wish I should witness a review of female troops, and two regiments were at once paraded, but not before the ground was shifted and marked out for the manœuvring. The officers (female) distinguished by armlets of silver reaching from the wrist to the elbow, and carrying each a small whip. The whole were uniformly dressed in tunics of blue and white, armed with a musket, club, and short sword, carried cartouch-boxes, and went through several evolutions, skirmishing, firing volleys, &c., with much precision. After the review the officers were introduced and complimented.

The King next proposed Her Majesty the Queen of England's health, which he said he knew we preferred to drink in champagne, which we did accordingly; but as the King drank it several screens were held before him, as mortal may not gaze on His Majesty either in the act of eating or drinking.

After drinking His Majesty's health also in champagne, we were permitted to take leave. The King accompanying us across the square, where all now was animation: the thousands of armed men and women rushing round their Monarch, brandishing aloft their clubs and muskets, and yelling and shouting in a most fearful manner.

Our quarters were in the Prime Minister's inclosure, a recently built house for English visitors.

October 18.—At an early hour we were commanded to appear before the King, and I was directed to bring my despatches.

After much delay and ceremony, we were ushered into a small apartment, immediately within the Palace gate; on a bed covered with a mat and satin pillows, reclined the King, who rose to receive us; there were present the Prime Minister, a few of the ladies of the harem, and some five attendants, besides Mr. Duncan and the two interpreters. I immediately proceeded to business.

Having presented the Commander-in-chief's letter, the King desired me to read it to him, which I did in short sentences, explaining their meaning, and causing them to be translated by both interpreters at the same moment, who often appeared to be correcting each other, and thus probably giving the King a true version.

Having finished the letter, I read those portions of my instructions which referred to the Slave Trade, Mr. Duncan's position, human sacrifices, and the introduction of missionaries. Concerning the Slave Trade the King intends answering at the Customs; Mr. Duncan's position the King understands; human sacrifices I felt I could thank him for having so far reduced in numbers; the introduction of missionaries he courts.

Having gone into much detail on the advantage of legal trade, of the probability, in consequence of increased coercion on the part of the Brazilian Government, of his not deriving high profits in future from the sale of slaves, when I had written the King's letter to the Commander-in-chief, the public business was closed.

We conversed for some time on various topics, and among others, the King's wish that the Slave Trade should be stopped in the neighbouring States.

Mr. Duncan having asked the King if he could inform him of the fate of Dr. Dickson, the fellow traveller of Captain Clapperton, he related as follows:

"Mr. Dickson appeared at Abomey, accompanied by the late Charchar, Senhor da Souza. At Da Souza's request, the King furnished Dr. Dickson with a body-guard of sixty men. Arrived at the frontier town of Char, forty of the guard returned, but a man named Amuza, with six soldiers, Asukbah with five, and Bongboo, three headmen, had never been heard of since. That after leaving Char, they passed into the country of Neekie (Neefoo) on the road to Haussa, but from leaving Neefoo, all trace was lost.

"Dr. Dickson had the fever very badly at Abomey, and his head was shaved."

The King then told me I should see his wealth at the Customs; that he was about to depart for a festival, but could not leave visitors in his city, asked me how long I wished to remain to rest.

I told him three days, but finding out afterwards he really wished to be on the road, I agreed to leave in two.

Understanding we were going to see the market, he sent a slave to accompany us, with 20,000 cowries.

After drinking a great deal of champagne, we took leave, accompanied to the end of the square by the King. At the moment he had stepped out of the Palace, not a soul was to be seen, but before we parted, thousands had surrounded, armed as yesterday, and thousands more were rushing from all sides, shouting, and brandishing aloft their weapons.

The markets are very extensive, in which foreign as well as native goods of all kinds are exposed for sale; there being no shops, these markets, or fairs, are the only places where articles are bought and sold; they take place once in five days, and in the neighbourhood of Abomey there are several, so that each day there is a market.

October 19.—At an early hour assembled outside the Prime Minister's house, to hear a salute of twenty-one guns fired in honour of Her Majesty the Queen of England, nine as a salute to myself, and nine in honour of Mr. Duncan. After drinking Her Majesty's health, the troops hurrahed, and the salute commenced; but before it was half-over, we were all obliged to scamper after the Prime Minister, and hide our faces against the wall, as a portion of the 18,000 royal wives were passing, ringing a small bell, as these sable ladies are all over the town at all times, and no male may gaze on them unpunished.

The salute over, the King's permission was given us to depart when convenient, and as a return for my present, the Prime Minister presented in the King's name a large country cloth for the hammock (so expressed), 20,000 cowries for the road, some flour, palm-oil, peppers and a bullock, which had not arrived when Her Majesty's ship sailed. My present to the King consisted of

	£	s.	d.
One piece of silk	1	10	0
One do. satin stripe	1	13	0
Twenty-five gallons of Rum	3	2	6
One case of Wine	1	4	0
Sword and belt	0	0	0
Cap and band	0	0	0
Bracelet and scissors	0	10	0
	£7	19	6

The King was at an expense of no less than 200 dollars in consequence of our visit; food in enormous quantities was sent daily for our consumption.

October 20.—Quitted the capital; the Vice-Consul unwell with dysentery.

October 25.—Arrived at Whydah. Mr. Duncan much worse. Took lodgings in the town.

October 26.—Senhor Domingo Jozé Martins sent to offer his boats for my embarkation. This offer saved me much inconvenience, as Senhor Martins, although a slave-merchant, is in part a legal merchant also. It is absolutely necessary that the Vice-Consul should have the means of communicating with Her Majesty's ships; he should be provided with at least two large canoes and a set of canoe-men (twenty).

October 29.—Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher" arrived.

October 30.—The surgeon of Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher" having decided it necessary, embarked the Vice-Consul, Mr. Duncan, very ill with dysentery.

Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher," at noon, fired a royal salute in honour of the King of Dahomey, and in answer to the salute to Her Majesty the Queen of England, fired at Abomey.

Arrived Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta." Rejoined, and sailed for Liberia.

Inclosure 13 in No. 3.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

Sir,

"Bonetta," at sea, November 5, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to lay before you the following report on the existing state of the Slave and other trades in the Kingdom of Dahomey.

Guezo, the present King, some years ago, at the wish of his subjects, deposed his brother Adonooza, the latter having fallen into the degrading habit of inebriation.

Guezo no sooner became King than he made it his chief policy either to employ his people in war or amuse them with festivals. In order to insure success in the former (and as it will be seen in both) he established large armies of male and female soldiers, and in the course of time conquered the Kingdoms of Anagoo, Mahee, Bassa, and Kangaroo, thus rendering Dahomey a large monarchy. Instead of being tributary (as formerly) to the Kingdom of Ashantee, he has placed that country nominally at his feet, sent his defiance, and built a palace under the name of Coomassee (that of the capital of Ashantee) to commemorate the declaration.

Besides minor there is one annual festival known as the Customs, which takes place on the appearance of the third moon, March 13, 1850, and lasts six weeks. To this festival the whole of his subjects are invited, also all foreigners, traders, and others, sojourners in his kingdom, and all are assembled at the expense of the King. In order to defray this enormous expense, the King makes war on one or the other neighbouring countries, and performs what is termed a "slave-hunt." These hunts the King always superintends, and in order to excite emulation, gives the female soldiers a different portion to overrun from the male; in the performance of which duty the females almost always excel.

The King having acquired a taste for European articles of merchandize, has a great desire to strengthen his alliance with foreigners. Having no doubt of their national protection, he holds the British and French people in great respect, while, on the contrary, although he admits that the Portuguese, *i. e.* slave-merchants, readily purchase all his slaves, he treats them with much contempt, forcing them to pay many additional duties, &c.

The Kingdom of Dahomey, although of such vast inland extent, has but one seaport, Whydah, or more properly *Greogwei*, the Dahomian name, while the slave-merchants term it *Ajuda*. From the number of slave-merchants residing at Whydah, that port is strictly watched by the cruisers. Of these merchants the late Da Souza, a Brazilian, was the chief, or Charchar, friend and agent to the King. Although Da Souza was at one time said to possess 120,000,000 dollars, at his death he was almost a pauper, the consequence of having been over liberal in his presents, and having met with some severe losses at sea. Besides the enormous expenses of his household, his wives alone amounting to 300, he lived in great magnificence, every article of table or domestic use was of solid silver.

Of the sons of Da Souza there are three wealthy and slave-merchants; the eldest, Isidore, is a resident of Popo, and will become Charchar magistrate of slave-merchants, if Domingo Martins declines that office. The other two are Antonio Cockoo and Ignacio.

Domingo Jozé Martins, the richest merchant in the Bights (Brazilian), is a resident at Porto Novo, where he commands a monopoly of both slave and palm-oil trades, each of which he works to an enormous amount, and he is the only merchant in the Bights that ships a whole slave cargo; the others club their slaves, and ship in proportion to their means all in one or more vessels. Martins has a large consignment of British cotton on palm-oil account at Porto Novo. He has an establishment also at Whydah.

Joaquim Almeida, the richest resident in Whydah, was originally from the Mahee country; sold into slavery, he has returned from Bahia, and is now a slave-merchant on an extensive scale.

Jacinta, a native of Madeira, and Jozé Joaquim, fill up the number of Brazilian and Portuguese merchants; the latter was formerly a private soldier of the Brazils. There are also many petty dealers. The house of Joaquim Antonio (D) is the only Spanish firm.

By means of lagoon the slaves can be shipped at either Porto Novo, &c., to the eastward, or Popo, &c., to the westward, with much greater safety; but as these ports are the property each of a neighbouring chief, the King of Dahomey is jealous of his slaves being shipped without his kingdom, as thereby he loses the head-tax of 20 dollars, a heavy sum; and hence his repeated desire the Slave Trade might be put a stop to in the neighbouring States, and shipments allowed in Whydah.

The price of a slave, from the trade being almost a royal monopoly (or at least a Martins one), is very high, being (in goods) from 80 to 100 dollars. Hence with many captures there is great loss; the consequence is, that each slave-merchant counteracts the chances of the losses in some degree, by embarking also in the palm-oil trade, and at this moment not one slave-merchant in Whydah but works both trades.

The French house of Blancheley is working a large palm-oil trade. There are a few supercargoes of Hamburgh vessels generally residing, who invariably purchase through Portuguese or Brazilian agency.

The Americans have no trade at Whydah.

Hutton and Co., the only British firm, as far as I can judge, are not purchasing.

The resources of the country might be much extended, the soil is capable of producing all tropical plants, sugar corn, fruits, &c., though the curse of the locusts is felt at times. The timber is magnificent at a little distance from Whydah. The animal kingdom is well furnished. The geologist and the botanist would find ample employment and be well repaid for developing the hidden treasures of the Kingdom of Dahomey. The exports at once might be palm-oil, cocoa, and ground-nut oil, timber, Indian and Guinea corn, cotton and yams (to the rivers). The jealousy of the present trade removed, there is no part of Africa where stock and even luxuries can be produced so abundantly and cheap. The manufactures are cloths of various kinds and pottery.

At this moment the King is preparing for a slave-hunt, but *ad interim* he is performing the festival in memory of his mother, at which large numbers of his subjects and all his soldiers are assembled.

The seat of war will be in the country of Anagoos, situated to the westward of Abomey; this country has already been subjugated by the Dahomians.

The King thus states his reasons. That in the reign of his grandfather, the Anagoos invested Abomey, and so closely that the women could not leave the city for water (which is procured from a distance of six miles), without fear of being kidnapped. The consequence was, great suffering on the part of the Dahomians; neither his grandfather nor his father were fighting men, but quietly submitted to the ravages of the inroad. He had, however, conquered the Anagoos, but did not consider them as yet sufficiently punished; that he must have money (slaves for the ensuing Customs), and he thought of all his hereditary enemies, the Anagoos most deserved the chastisement.

The fact is, he has conquered almost all his neighbours, and is at a loss for some new field in which to perform his slave-hunt. Malefactors are mostly punished with death, but may be reprieved and sold into slavery. Domestic slaves are on no account allowed to be sold into foreign slavery. Should a merchant allow a slave to become a parent in Dahomey, he cannot sell either parent or child into foreign slavery. Slaves are never exposed in the market, but all sales are arranged privately in the houses of the dealers.

The shipments of the last six months, independent of those captured, are as follows: from Porto Novo, 3 with 570 slaves; 1 with 200 slaves;

1 with 300; 1 with 70: all schooners, the two former built for the Trade, the latter a French vessel, purchased. Report speaks of two other schooners, but I failed in getting particulars. From Whydah 1 with 200 slaves (a schooner fore and aft), built for the Trade. From Popo 1 with less than 100 slaves, a French schooner purchased. Report states that three others have lately shipped, but again no particulars. From River Volta, 1 with 200 slaves, a schooner built for the Trade. From Lagos and Jaboo I have no information, but in Her Majesty's ship under my command, chased unsuccessfully one schooner laden (reported).

The slaves in hand at this moment are as follows: at Abomey the King has two cargoes, but I have failed in discovering of what amount; at Whydah 50 slaves; Popo, 800; Porto Novo, none; Lagos, unknown.

At Whydah the jealousy of the trade revealed that the Spaniards have established themselves at Formosa, working the Nun and Brass Rivers, and that a felucca had escaped full. Such is the case, and the felucca escaped the "Waterwitch" and "Phoenix" about six weeks since.

The merchants in the Volta and to the westward of Cape St. Paul's are Spaniards.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

Inclosure 14 in No. 3.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Extract.)

"Bonetta," at Sea, November 7, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to report that while at Abomey, a Krooman named Toh made the following statement to me:

"Some ten years since I was wrecked in a British merchant-vessel on the coast (I believe near Whydah); the white men remained on the beach whilst I and another Krooman named Nyapong went into the bush to procure food, where we were both kidnapped, marched to Abomey, and sold. I have twice essayed to reach the beach, but each have been brought back and punished. I am unaware of the name and rank of my master, but he is a very rich man.

"I have often tried, but never succeeded in nearing the King's person. Nyapong and myself work on a distant plantation."

He spoke English well. I desired my Kroomen to feed and look after him, but he was soon missing.

I immediately sent to the Prime Minister, Mayo, and related to him the above statement; he promised to lay the matter at once before the King.

On the morning of my departure I was somewhat surprised that the Prime Minister did not arrive to see us from the town, as is the custom. On sending my stick to him, his headman arrived and told me that Mayo had been commanded into the Royal presence, and desired we would not wait for him. That as soon as he had an opportunity he would lay the Krooman's case before the King, and send the Royal decision to Mr. Duncan at Whydah.

It appears from the evidence of my head Kroomen, Tom Walker and Jack Smart, that both of the above-named Kroomen are slaves to Mayo, several of that chief's servants having told them so; hence his disinclination to mention the case to the King. It is my opinion he will forward them to Mr. Duncan, and not dare mention it to His Majesty.

Inclosure 15 in No. 3.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Extract.)

"Bonetta," at Sea, November 9, 1849.

AT this moment the slave-merchants are panic-stricken at the success of the Bights squadron, and the King complains that he cannot ship from his own country, thereby losing twenty dollars a-head.

If it is fully proved by demonstration that you are determined he shall not ship slaves, he will come to terms.

In order to approach the King with becoming dignity, I should recommend that a suitable present be prepared for the visit at the Customs.

His Majesty having requested the following articles, they should, if possible, form items: this present should not be in value less than 100% sterling:

Musketoons.
Muskets.
Sponges and rammers, from 3 to 6-pounders.
Clocks.
Hour-glasses.
Slouched beaver hats, trimmed with gold lace.
Silk "pieces."
Rope "signal haulyards."
Musical boxes.
Chairs.
Wines, sweet.

Inclosure 16 in No. 3.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.)

Whydah, August 24, 1849.

YOU will be surprised to hear that a slaver took in cargo here on the 18th; about 200 were shipped. The object of those interested is to make it appear that the Slave Trade is not decreasing, although the fact of its decrease may easily be proved from certainty, that the whole of the merchants extensively engaged in the Slave Trade are now extensive traders in oil, a part which did not exist three years ago. It has been stated that eight slave-ships have left Porto Novo with full cargoes, when I find from information that may be relied on, that only four slavers have left that part of the coast, and at least one of them captured.

I shall return from Dahomey in about a fortnight, when I shall avail myself of the first opportunity of communicating to you the result of my mission to the King.

Inclosures 17 in No. 3.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Commander Harvey.

(Extract.)

Whydah, September 18, 1849.

I AM sure you will feel much surprised at not receiving any communication from me before this time; and even now I am writing it is very uncertain whether this may reach you, there is so much jealousy on

the part of the Portuguese and Spaniards. I have been three times on the beach endeavouring to get off to your ship, but could not on any terms get a canoe. I waited five hours on the beach this day, endeavouring to get a canoe to take me on board; but although the Frenchman (who is the only person of any stability of character here) was shipping oil, he was afraid to allow one of his canoes to take off even a note to you, so great is the jealousy of the Spaniards and Portuguese, in consequence of my favourable reception by the King of Dahomey, whose kindness and honourable conduct is highly creditable to him and very favourable to commerce. My time will not admit of a detailed account of my journey to the capital and reception, but I hope to be able by some means to come on board and give you a *viva voce* statement; suffice to state, it was very satisfactory; but I shall have to attend again at Dahomey at the great annual Custom, which will take place in about seven moons. He expressed his great satisfaction at my return to his country, and at my appointment as Vice-Consul.

On the evening previous to my return for the coast, myself and companions received a number of presents; articles of various kinds, as well as live stock.

With the present squadron on this part of the coast, and a small garrison of men here, the Slave Trade might be completely broken up here, as the King is so anxious to encourage legitimate commerce; but now that old Da Souza is dead, it will be difficult, without some protection, to contend with such a nest of hornets as the slave-dealers. They are now making custom for old Da Souza. A number of soldiers from Dahomey are here, and some prisoners of war have been sent here to be sacrificed on this occasion; in all probability these prisoners will be put to death,—although, to the credit of Da Souza, they declined to sacrifice them. Two of the prisoners were paraded round the town on Sunday last, bound round the neck, wrists, and waist, and driven along by a man holding a rope behind. They were the principal leaders in the last war between the Eyo and Dahomian countries; they were old and determined enemies many years to the former King of Dahomey; they were compelled to dance to the death-drums as they marched, strongly guarded by Dahomian soldiers. They visited the English and French Forts. M. Blanchelley humanely offered 1000 dollars for their life, but being political offenders it was refused.

As I am writing, I have learned to a certainty, that the parties above alluded to have been sacrificed at the beach on the 17th, at half-past 3 o'clock, and two more on the grave of old Da Souza, in spite of the remonstrance of his sons, as I am told.

Inclosure 18 in No. 3.

Vice-Consul Duncan to Viscount Palmerston.

(Extract.)

Whydah, September 22, 1849.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you of my safe arrival at Abomey, the capital of the Kingdom of Dahomey. I started from Whydah on the evening of the 24th of August, and arrived in Abomey on the 30th; we rested one day at Canamina to prepare for our entry and reception in the capital. We were very tired from excessive fatigue in passing through the swamp between Ahguay and Ahgrimmy. It is nine miles across, and during this season of the year it is almost impassable.

At the entrance to the capital we were met by all the principal Cabooceers and officers of the household, who, after the usual ceremony of drinking healths with all of them, accompanied by a continual fire of musketry, we were conducted to the Palace; and after passing by three times in parade-order, the King requested me to dismount and come to him. I found him the same frank, unassuming, but intelligent man I had found him in 1845. He expressed his great satisfaction at seeing me once more, according to my promise, and said he hoped that the Queen of

England had sent me to live at his hand for a long time, and to teach his people some of the arts of civilized life. He next inquired of the Queen's health, and the whole of the Royal Family of England; next the Queen's Cabooceers, and then drank the Queen's health, and afterwards her Ministers', accompanied by roars of musketry.

The King was dressed in a plain cotton robe, without any ornament. He was surrounded by his female soldiers, some of them very good-looking; and some of the younger ones nearest his person were very richly dressed and ornamented.

Nearly all of the female commanders recognized me; they stood up alternately, making each a long speech complimentary of my return, expressing their readiness to sacrifice their lives to serve me, as the friend of their King. At this moment the old Chief of Dassa was brought before me a prisoner; the fine, venerable old man appeared so terror-stricken as to be almost unconscious of what was passing. The King told him his prophecy had now been fulfilled. He, the chief, had with his people turned out to attack one solitary white man, in a country where he had no father, no mother, except the King of Dahomey, who would always be a father to Englishmen; and also endeavoured to force a guard which accompanied him, although capable of annihilating the whole of the Dassa people. The King told him to look around him, and see the female soldiers who so easily conquered his country; he also told him he was now at my discretionary disposal. I dared not ask for his liberty, but was promised he should only be detained as a State prisoner. He was very clean, and seemed to want for nothing. It was now getting late in the afternoon, and the King gave us leave to depart.

Two days after, the Queen's presents were got ready, and sent to him through Mayo. The King was much pleased with the presents, especially with the scarlet uniforms and scarlet cloth. He was also much pleased with a spinning-wheel sent by my mother from Scotland, and also with a small model weaving-loom I had made for him. He requested me to show him how to spin, which placed me in rather an awkward position, especially as it was cotton instead of flax. However, I acquitted myself to his satisfaction. After overhauling the edge-tools, and inquiring their particular uses, he requested that I should take some of them back to Whydah, for the purpose of instructing two young men whom he promised to send down here under my charge.

On the day previous to my departure from the coast for Abomey, the King sent a messenger to acquaint me that it will be necessary, holding office in his dominions, that I shall attend his annual Custom; in consequence of which I kept some few of the presents for that occasion, having plenty of other articles of hardware, which I added and presented in the name of Her Majesty. This will enable me to go full-handed on my next visit, when he promises to give me full answers to your Lordship's letter respecting the Slave Trade. He listened very attentively to the letter, and said that when I attend his Custom, and see the quantity of money he pays to his people annually, I shall be better able to give an opinion whether legitimate trade can be extended to afford a revenue equivalent. I told him it was probable some years must elapse ere that could be done. He must himself call forth the resources of the soil of his country; and told him, that as cotton was the spontaneous production of the soil, it could easily be increased to any extent, and we would purchase as much as he chose to raise. This proposal seemed to please him very much. He admits there is no market for slaves now, which makes him very poor indeed. He promised to do all in his power to extend the cultivation of cotton, provided I remain in his country and secure a market for it. The King admits the injustice of slave-trading, but remarked that we were a long time finding it out to be wrong; and as soon as he finds that by any other means he can raise sufficient revenue, he will readily abandon it; but again remarked he would answer all at the next Custom.

On the 6th of September the King sends Mayo with a variety of presents for myself and companions,—1 fine young cow, 3 goats, 6 fowls,

3 bags of native flour, 3 kegs of fine palm-oil for cooking, 3 measures of pepper, and 3 kegs of rum, besides 3 fine native cloths.

During our sojourn in the capital, we were entertained at the King's expense. After sunset Mayo came to acquaint us that it was the King's desire that we should drink, before we leave the capital, the Queen of England's health. This, of course, was readily agreed to; and accordingly we followed Mayo to an open space in front of English House, where we found a table already laid out in real English style, and covered with a cloth I had presented a day or two before. Mayo filled the glasses with water, first, which is customary, being considered a sincere mark or pledge of friendship, being pure and unadulterated. They were next filled with wine; and Mayo proposed the health of Queen Victoria of England, which was followed by a "hip-hip-hurrah!" which passed along a line of half a mile of men stationed for that purpose. Immediately the hurrah ceased, a salute of twenty-one guns was fired in honour of Her Britannic Majesty, with a degree of regularity that would do credit to more civilized nations. This was followed by nine guns in honour of myself as British Vice-Consul.

The kind reception of the King of Dahomey has excited a great degree of jealousy on the part of the Spanish and Portuguese slave-dealers, consequently they look upon me with great suspicion since my return from the capital.

On Saturday last the Custom commenced, according to the country usage, for the late Don Francisco da Souza, who died on the 8th of May last; he was the Charchar, or Mayor of the Spaniards and Portuguese in Whydah. Great anxiety prevails at this moment amongst his sons as to the decision of the King in appointing a successor. It is expected the second son will have it; he is considered the best man as far as regards disposition and qualification; but it is expected that the Government of Whydah will not be carried on with the same energy as before.

On Sunday last a singular procession arrived at the English Fort, headed by a Cabooceer from Dahomey, who came to pay his respects to me; the procession consisted of a number of soldiers who guarded two prisoners, strongly secured with ropes, the wrists were tied together, the elbows were fastened, and a rope passed round the neck and waist; in this condition they were paraded round the town. I inquired the meaning of this singular procession, when the poor creatures were brought before me and compelled to dance, although bound in the manner above described. I was allowed to put my own questions to them direct, through my own interpreter, and learnt as follows:—

Question. How long since they left their native country?

Answer. About ten moons since they were taken.

Q. For what reason did they leave Dahomey and return to their own country to report the proceedings of the King of Dahomey?

A. They do not know.

Q. How many days since they have been bound in the manner they are at present?

A. Fourteen days.

Q. What do you yourselves suppose the King intends to do with you for this breach of faith?

A. We are at present in the state you behold us, tied both hands and body, compelled to dance through the streets and public places wherever we are driven. Whether our lives will be spared after all this or not we cannot tell.

N.B.—The first of these men is in their own country, called the "King of the Fishing-Net." The next the "King of the Turkey Buzzard;" both are natives of the Eyo Country. It appears from further inquiry, that in the reign of the preceding King of Dahomey, these two prisoners came and settled in Abomey with the King of Dahomey as his friends and subjects; but when they became acquainted with the Dahomian Country they ran away to their own country, and informed the King of Eyo that he might easily surprise the Dahomians and kill the whole of them, and

they also undertook to manage and command the whole affair. Accordingly, the King of Eyo entrusted them with his army, and they advanced towards Dahomey, where they chanced to meet a small party of soldiers journeying to a town some distance off; they attacked and destroyed the whole of this small party, and dug a hole in the ground, where they buried all their arms, which were not found until years after when digging for clay for house-building. In the last war between Eyo and Dahomey, the former was completely conquered by the female soldiers, and the two men before mentioned, although so long since they had figured so conspicuously, were recognized and made prisoners. The object of sending them to Whydah was for the purpose of sacrifice at the custom-making for old Da Souza, but his sons declined the honour, and the prisoners were beheaded on the beach. I forgot to mention that when the prisoners were taken to be exhibited at the French Fort, M. Blancheley, a merchant occupying that fort, humanely offered 1000 dollars, to spare their lives; but although they were about eighty years of age, the offer was refused upon grounds of the grievous nature of their offence.

The Custom is likely to last a month; a great nuisance in the town, as continual firing of ordnance and small arms is irregularly kept up, with drums of the most barbarous kind, day and night, Sunday not excepted, I forgot to mention.

It is with much satisfaction I am enabled to inform your Lordship that all the gibbets exhibited in the market-places in Abomey on my former visit are now done away with, and the skulls placed on the walls by the former King are suffered to decay without being replaced. This is one step towards civilization.

I have this day been visited by some respectable people from Ahguay, who some years ago emigrated from Sierra Leone; they appointed their headman to come here to present a petition, which I have inclosed to your Lordship. Cole, the bearer to me, is a very respectable man, and expresses his own and the whole of the Sierra Leone people's readiness to assist me in carrying out any agricultural experiment, and in collecting and planting cotton: this would assist these people themselves, as well as employing them profitably to those requiring their services. They are despised by the slave-dealers, as their presence and their education tends to expose the slave-dealing system. I have inclosed a document* respecting the Slave Trade; I submit it to your Lordship's kind consideration. Nothing will afford me more gratification than to be the means of doing good for my country, and entirely abolishing Slavery on this part of the coast, and establishing a system of remunerative industry and an extension of legitimate commerce.

Inclosure 19 in No. 3.

The King of Dahomey to Viscount Palmerston.

Abomey, September 7, 1849.

I, GUEZO, King of Dahomey, beg to return my sincere thanks to the Queen of England and Lord Palmerston, for presents sent to me by them, through Mr. Duncan. I beg also to thank Lord Palmerston for his good advice respecting the trade of this country, and I do assure Lord Palmerston that the earliest opportunity will be taken of consulting my Cabooceers on the subject, and at the next annual Custom held here, Mr. Duncan shall be made acquainted with our decision. I have always a strong desire to cultivate a friendship with the people of England, and to establish and increase a trade with that country. Englishmen were my father's best friends, and he always told me to respect Englishmen, and look upon them in my heart as sincere in their promises and friendship. An Englishman's heart is big, like a large calabash (gourd) that overflows with palm-wine for those who are thirsty. I know that the

* See Slave Trade Papers, Class B, presented 1850, No. 7, page 9.

Portuguese and Spaniards care nothing me, their friendship and presents are all to serve their own purpose of obtaining slaves, upon which they themselves derive the principal profit.

I beg to thank Lord Palmerston for appointing my friend, Mr. Duncan, Vice-Consul for my country, and I promise to protect and assist him in performing the duties for which you have placed him here, and shall afford him the same protection when passing through my country, as I did on his last journey in my dominions. I have broken the Dassa Country, whose people went to war against Mr. Duncan when passing their country. I hold their chief a captive ever since ten moons after Mr. Duncan's visit to their country, and have kept him in my house, that Mr. Duncan might see his enemies in captivity before he die; he has now seen him, and my heart rejoiceth. And so shall fall every one who shall molest an Englishman while under my protection.

I am much pleased with the proposal of cultivating cotton in my country, and have already planted the seeds given to me by Mr. Duncan. Mayo has also planted some. I beg to assure the Queen of England and also Lord Palmerston, of my sincere friendship and gratitude.

Signed (Mayo holding the top of the pen) on behalf of Guezo, King of Dahomey,

MAYO LADYETTO, *Prime Minister.*

[Read over three times, at the request of the King.]

Inclosure 20 in No. 3.

Treaty to be Proposed to the King of Dahomey.

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the King of Dahomey, being desirous of concluding a Treaty for the abolition of the barbarous practice of transporting natives of Africa across the sea for the purpose of consigning them to Slavery in foreign countries, Her Majesty has for this purpose named as her Plenipotentiaries, John Beecroft, Esquire, her Consul to the native Chiefs of Africa whose territories lie between Cape St. Paul and Cape St. John, and Frederick Edwin Forbes, a Lieutenant in Her Majesty's Naval Service, and the Commander of her ship of war the "Bonetta."

And they, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries, for and on behalf of Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, and His Majesty Guezo, King of Dahomey, for himself, his heirs and successors, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles and Conditions:—

ARTICLE I.

The exportation of slaves to foreign countries is for ever abolished in the territories of the King of Dahomey, and the King of Dahomey engages to make and to proclaim a law prohibiting any of his subjects or any person within his jurisdiction from selling or assisting in the sale of any slave for transportation to a foreign country; and the King of Dahomey promises to inflict a severe punishment on any person who shall break this law.

ARTICLE II.

No European or other person whatever shall be permitted to reside within the territory of the King of Dahomey for the purpose of carrying on in any way the Traffic in Slaves; and no houses, stores, barracoons, or other buildings of any kind whatever shall be erected for the purposes of Slave Trade within the territory of the King of Dahomey; and if any such houses, stores, barracoons, or other buildings shall at any future time be erected within the territory of Dahomey, and the King of Dahomey shall fail or be unable to destroy them, they may be destroyed by any British officers employed for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

ARTICLE III.

If at any time it shall appear that Slave Trade has been carried on through or from the territory of the King of Dahomey, such Slave Trade may be put down in that territory by Great Britain by force, and British officers may seize any boats of Dahomey found anywhere carrying on the Slave Trade.

ARTICLE IV.

The slaves now held for exportation in Dahomey shall be delivered up at Whydah to the senior officer of Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces in the Bight of Benin, for the purpose of being carried to a British colony, to be there set free; and all the implements of the Slave Trade and the barracoons or buildings exclusively used in the Slave Trade shall be forthwith destroyed.

ARTICLE V.

Europeans or other persons who may be found to be engaged in the Slave Trade in the territory of Dahomey, are to be expelled from the country; the houses, stores, or buildings hitherto employed as slave-factories, if not converted to lawful purposes within three months from the conclusion of this Treaty, are to be destroyed.

ARTICLE VI.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty may always trade freely with the people of Dahomey in every article which they may wish to buy or sell in all the places and ports and rivers within the territories of the King of Dahomey, and throughout the whole of his dominions; and the King of Dahomey pledges himself to show no favour and to give no privilege to the ships and traders of other countries, which he does not or will not show to those of England.

ARTICLE VII.

In consideration of the above-mentioned concessions on the part of the King of Dahomey, and in full compensation for the temporary loss of revenue to which His Majesty may be subject therefrom, Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland engages to make to the King of Dahomey yearly for three years, a present either of £ sterling, or of goods to that value, at the option of the King. But this annual present is to cease if Slave Trade should again be carried on within the territory of Dahomey.

ARTICLE VIII.

This Treaty shall have full force and effect from the day
of 1850.

In faith whereof the above-named Plenipotentiaries of Her Britannic Majesty and His Majesty the King of Dahomey have signed the same, and have affixed thereto their respective seals.

Done at Abomey, the day of , 1850.

No. 4.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 25, 1850.

I NOW proceed to give you instructions for your mission to Abbeokuta, to which I alluded in the concluding part of my preceding despatch.

A short time since a deputation from the Church Missionary Society waited upon me, and represented among other things that the establishment of commercial relations with the interior of Africa through the Yoruba tribe, would materially contribute to the suppression of the Slave Trade, and that if free and secure navigation on the Ogu could be obtained, most of the advantages which were proposed by the expedition of the Niger in 1842 would be attained; that traders from the banks of the Niger visit the principal markets of Abbeokuta; and that there is little doubt that the road to Egba and Rabbah, the former of which was the highest point reached by the Niger expedition, might be opened for trade through the Ogu River.

Abbeokuta, as I am informed, is the chief town of the Egba province of the Yoruba Kingdom, and contains above 50,000 inhabitants. It is situated upon the east bank of the Ogu, and that river is navigable for canoes to within a mile of Abbeokuta, and discharges itself into the sea at the Island of Lagos. Lagos is therefore said to be the natural port of Abbeokuta; but the Slave Trade being carried on at Lagos with great activity, the Yoruba people have been obliged to use the port of Badagry, between which and Abbeokuta communications are carried on by a difficult road by land.

But besides the impediments which the slave-dealers at Lagos throw in the way of legitimate commerce, the Yoruba people experience another hindrance to their prosperity, and a constant cause of alarm from the hostility of the King of Dahomey, who harasses them by an annual slave-hunt, and who is said to have threatened the destruction of the town of Abbeokuta. His enmity is said to be especially excited by the fact that the Yorubas are becoming prosperous and are gaining wealth by their commerce with the English, and by refraining from Slave Trade.

The Yorubas are represented to be a commercial people in their habits, and much trade has been carried on between Abbeokuta and Sierra Leone, by way of Badagry. It is also believed that many of the liberated Africans have emigrated from Sierra Leone to Abbeokuta, and many vessels owned entirely by liberated Africans are said to be employed in the Trade between Sierra Leone and Badagry. There is also a regular trade carried on between London and Badagry. English missionaries have been received both at Badagry and Abbeokuta with great kindness, and their valuable services in imparting religious instruction and in promoting social improvements appear to be duly appreciated by the natives. The people of Abbeokuta are said to feel a strong desire that the Slave Trade should be wholly abolished, and that legitimate traffic should be substituted for it; and the Egba chiefs manifest a favourable disposition towards the English nation.

Under these circumstances, Her Majesty's Government have deemed it advisable that you should at a suitable season visit Abbeokuta, in order to ascertain by inquiry on the spot, the actual wants, and wishes, and disposition of the Yoruba people.

I have accordingly to instruct you to proceed on this mission as soon as you conveniently can. Before you proceed, however, to Abbeokuta, it will be advisable that you should first visit the chiefs on the coast within your Consular jurisdiction, and that you should endeavour to ascertain the sentiments and intentions of such of them as have not already entered into amicable relations with Great Britain.

You will explain to those chiefs what is stated in my letters addressed to the chiefs themselves, that the principal object of your appointment is to encourage and promote legitimate and peaceful commerce, whereby

those chiefs and their people may obtain in exchange for the products of their own country, those European commodities which they may want for their own use and enjoyment; so that the great natural resources of their country may be developed, their wealth and their comforts increased, and the practice of stealing, buying, and selling men, women, and children, may be put an end to; and you will impress upon their minds that it is the earnest desire of the Queen's Government to contribute in every possible way to their welfare and prosperity, if they will but listen favourably to your overtures, and will honestly follow the friendly counsel which is offered to them by the British Government.

When by personal communication with these chiefs, you shall have made yourself acquainted with their disposition, and shall have ascertained how far they may be inclined to break off their connexion with slave-dealers, and to apply themselves to legitimate trade, you will be the better prepared to undertake with advantage your mission to Abbeokuta.

With respect to any aggressive intentions of the King of Dahomey towards the Yoruba people, you will have an opportunity, during your visit to Abomey, to bring that subject under the notice of the King; you will represent to him that the people who dwell in the Yoruba and Popo Countries are the friends of England, and that the British Government takes a great interest in their welfare, and would see with much concern and displeasure any acts of violence or oppression committed against them; that, moreover, there are dwelling among those tribes many liberated Africans and British-born subjects whom Her Majesty's Government are bound to protect from injury.

It is to be hoped that such representations as these, enforced by whatever influence you and Lieutenant Forbes may have acquired over the King in the course of your negotiations upon other matters, may induce the King to make a formal promise to abstain from future aggressions against the people of Yoruba and Popo, and from molesting in any way the liberated Africans or Europeans who reside in Abbeokuta and Badagry, or who frequent the countries adjoining the territories of Dahomey.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

The Rev. H. Townsend to the Secretary of the Church Missionary Society.

My dear Sir,

Exeter, October 17, 1849.

1. IN committing to paper at your request such considerations as appear to me to make a deputation to Lord Palmerston desirable, respecting the dangers to which our missionary stations and British subjects are exposed by the annual slave-hunts of the King of Dahomey, I must confine myself to leading facts, in order to save the valuable time of those for whose consideration these remarks are written.

2. The object to be obtained is the safety of British subjects, who, being led by motives of religion, commerce, or love of their fatherland, dwell within the circle of Slave Trade influence in the Bight of Benin, or, to speak more definitively, who dwell in the Yoruba and Popo Countries.

3. The British subjects that dwell in those countries consist of missionaries engaged in diffusing the knowledge and blessings of Christianity among the native inhabitants, mercantile agents employed in lawful commerce, and liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, some of whom are traders, others engaged in agriculture, and others in the employment of missionaries or merchants.

4. The dangers to which these variously-employed British subject are exposed, are in short, that of being driven from the country, with the loss of their property, kidnapped, or murdered, when engaged in their lawful employments. These dangers do not arise from native barbarism, nor

from our residence there being unacceptable to the people, but from the influence of the white slave-traders in producing quarrels and wars among the people, and from the enmity that they feel towards those whose influence is opposed to their nefarious Traffic.

5. That the slave-dealers use their influence to drive us from the country, is easy of proof: First, slave-traders prevented the Sierra Leone people from landing or trading at Lagos. Secondly, a party of the Badagry people, led by two of their chiefs, known to be in correspondence with the white slave-traders, warned us to leave their country, giving as reasons the refusals of slave-traders to form a slave-factory there while Englishmen dwelt there. The designs of these chiefs were made known to us by other chiefs who desired our presence, but who confessed their inability to protect us from the Slave Trade party; and at their suggestion we sought and obtained the protection of Her Majesty's sloop of war "Albatross," then cruising in the Bight. Thirdly, an embassy sent by the slave-trader Domingo to Abbeokuta, endeavoured to set the chiefs and people there in opposition to us, representing us as poor and despicable. Fourthly, at a village a few miles to the eastward of Badagry, a Wesleyan missionary then residing in Badagry, endeavoured to form a school with the approval of the native chief of the town, but before a schoolmaster could be sent, an agent of the slave-trader Domingo took up his residence there, and when the schoolmaster went, according to the previous arrangement, he was immediately sent back by the chief, who stated that the slave-trader was unwilling for him to reside or do anything there. These facts will show that the residence of Europeans, and missionaries in particular, in that country, is acceptable to the people, but unacceptable to a section when influenced by the white slaver-trader. Why violence was not used by the Slave Trade party is obvious: both the white slave-traders and the natives under their influence dreaded the power of the British cruisers, from whom they felt it would be impossible to hide any violent and direct attempt to dislodge us from the country.

6. These instances prove the opposition of the Slave Trade party to us and our proceedings; and in passing I might be permitted to remark, that this enmity proves more than any direct testimony could do, that our labours have already or are likely to exercise a most beneficial influence upon the people as opposed to the Slave Trade—the bane of West Africa. But recent events have discovered to us the presence of a more powerful foe in the person of the King of Dahomey, whose power probably will never be exercised against the persons of white British subjects, but will, if he be permitted to go on, most completely overturn all our attempts to evangelize and civilize that part of Africa.

7. This chief fears the power of England, and deprecates what Englishmen have done towards the introduction of lawful commerce at Badagry. This will appear in the following extract from the report of Mr. Cruickshanks, printed by order of the House of Commons, who quotes the King's words, thus: "No riches for my people; Porto Novo, Agado, Badagry, and other towns on the coast, once belonged to me, and paid their tribute as regularly as Whydah. Ships now go there and trade with them; factories are established for the purchase of palm-oil, and the result is, that this people are becoming rich, and set my authority at defiance. It is true, they still pay a nominal duty to prevent war, but I am cheated by them.* I wish the English Government to prevent ships from trading at these places, and to remove the factories, in order that I may regain my lost authority. It is the English factory at Badagry which has withheld me from attacking that town, for I would not think of injuring the subjects of the Queen of England." (See page 19 of the Report.)

8. In this passage the King complains of loss of tribute through the introduction of the palm-oil trade. What that tribute is we are not at a loss to know: it is the poll-tax paid on the exported slave; the export of slaves being diminished, the amount of taxes has also declined with it. His professions of love to British subjects are the result of British power which has been successfully employed to prevent the King's attempts to

* The King of Dahomey has no right to demand a tribute from these places, but fearing his power, they endeavoured to save themselves by peaceful means.

stop the exportation of palm-oil at Badagry. On one occasion his agents seized a Mr. Faulkner, captain and owner of a vessel called the "Little Grace," a British subject, when engaged in landing or shipping goods from his vessel at Badagry beach. He was liberated after having been carried into the country and detained several days, but not until his liberation was demanded by the commanding officer of the British squadron on that station.

9. Another extract from the same report will show the source of this King's power and riches. Mr. Cruickshanks says, "An export duty of five dollars is paid upon each slave shipped from the King's dominions, even although the port of embarkation may not belong to him. It is a frequent practice to convey them by the lagoon, either to the westward, as Little Popo, or to the eastward, as Porto Novo, neither of which towns are in subjection to the King." But that my extract may not be too long, I will content myself by giving the result only, viz., that he derives a revenue from taxes imposed on the Trade and by the kidnapping and selling of slaves himself, of 300,000 dollars, or 62,000*l.* per annum.

10. It must be borne in mind that nearly all of this immense revenue is derived from direct acts of the most atrocious robbery and murder, and that everyone residing within reach of this King's power would be liable to become one of the victims of his cruelty; and, moreover, that British subjects living consistently with the laws of their country, and thereby, if by no more direct efforts to do so, proving to the inhabitants the iniquity of the system that has so long afflicted them, and showing them the means of ridding themselves of it, would render themselves obnoxious to him and become his early victims if there be no protecting power extended over them. This protection has been received by those residing on the sea-coast, and this King dares not molest them, but we entertain what we conceive to be well-grounded apprehensions that those of us whose residences are more in the interior, are dwelling under considerable danger from this rapacious chief. An account of one of the kidnapping expeditions of the King of Dahomey that took place subsequent to Mr. Cruickshanks' mission will best show the reasonableness of our fears. It is given in the fourth number of the "Church Missionary Intelligencer;" but as an extract would be too long, I must be permitted to give the substance of it in my own words. The King of Dahomey sent his messenger to collect tribute from the chief of a town called Okeadon, situated about twenty miles north of Badagry, and within a short distance of the usual road from Badagry to Abbeokuta; and while his messenger was there, suddenly the town was surrounded by the Dahomian army, attacked, the chief and many of the people slain, and 19,600 captives carried off to Abomey in triumph. The same narrative goes on to say that probably 500 of these captives would be sacrificed to the manes of his ancestors; and that 800 of them had been already sent off to a slave-factor at Porto Novo, called Domingo, to pay a debt. The motive that dictated this monstrous act could be no other than the gain that would accrue from the sale of so many captives.

11. Some acquaintance with the designs of this chief adds additional strength to our fears. We received information from one who had a personal interview with the King of Dahomey, that he sought information from everyone likely to be able to give it, as to the situation and strength of Abbeokuta; and this information is more than confirmed by recent intelligence.

12. We have, therefore, in the attack and capture of Okeadon, a proof of his power, and in subsequent information, proofs of his intention to make Abbeokuta, whenever opportunity allows, a victim of his rapacious cruelty. With what feelings can we contemplate scenes like these? But the white man who quietly deals out the munitions of war, and receives in payment the helpless victims, is the secret spring that moves the whole; he does not contrive the treacherous scheme—he does not lead forth the army to the assault—upon his hands is not seen the blood of the slain, but the wealth that fills his stores supplies the motive that moves the mass, from the King that leads, to the lowest slave that follows in his train. As he first dealt out the means and supplied the motive for this

act, so, now that it is perpetrated, he coolly receives the victims, and strikes a balance between himself and the King of Dahomey. And, too, that his own conduct, although it cannot be hidden, might not appear in its native deformity, he tells such as admire the generosity, the hospitality, and the gentlemanly conduct of the white slave-trader, that he buys these helpless victims to save them from a terrible death.

13. With a clear knowledge of these things, with what feelings can we dwell in a place where we know not but that the like horrors might burst upon ourselves at a time when least expected. Our own safety cannot, even as it ought not, to be a matter of indifference to ourselves, and we feel it is a duty to God who gave us our life, not to leave a means untried that is likely to render our living there one of ordinary security. But an additional motive presents itself—we dwell, it is true, amongst heathens, but these heathens have shown us such kindness and respect, have taken so much trouble to render our living amongst them a comfort to ourselves, as well as a blessing to them, that we feel interested in their welfare. And not only so, but very many of them have forsaken idolatry, have embraced Christianity, have been baptised in the name of the Triune God, and thus have become fellow-subjects with us of one heavenly King; can we leave these for whom we have laboured, and for whom we have left home and all the comforts and blessings of civilized life, to become a prey to these monsters of cruelty, without any effort to rescue them as well as ourselves from this dreaded evil? And, let me ask, did not England send an armed fleet against Algiers, because they, the Algerines, enslaved Christians? Can England now stand by, and look on and see Christians who have become so through England's love of the Gospel, filling the barracoons of the slave-merchant first, and then suffering and dying under the cruel usage of the taskmaster? Surely it is not our duty tamely to sit by and see such wrongs cast upon those who have received the word of salvation from us.

14. There is an additional motive presented to us, by the consideration that we possess an important post in Abbeokuta for carrying out the benevolent plans of England for the welfare of that part of Africa. I speak not of Badagry, because, being near the sea, it can have the protection of the ships of war there. Should the King of Dahomey's intentions be carried into effect successfully, we lose our present advantages; the people whom we have, through God's assistance, gathered around us to assist us in our work, will be scattered or slain, and ourselves, if our persons should be respected, will be driven from the country; and, above all, our hopes of benefiting Africa will be blighted, without a hope of a more successful issue at another place.

15. With regard to this curse, the Slave Trade in Africa, it might be said, wherever it has any existence, that the African himself is the guilty agent; but more guilty is his employer, the white slave-trader. The King of Dahomey and all other kidnapping or slave-hunting chiefs, whether great or small, are the weak tools of a horrible system of cruelty, the prime movers of which are the white slave-traders. Are Englishmen, exercising their callings with honesty and peace, to be exposed to such a system? Shall their hopes of success in their commercial or religious labours be suddenly put out, and their lives and property endangered by the power of wealth which the Brazilian slave-trader uses for the destruction of all? Were it the barbarism of the African that endangered our safety, or sought our destruction, we would stand alone, and by God's blessing, do as has been done before, teach the lion or the bear to become a lamb; but when slave-trading gold is superadded, and which, if it takes effect only upon a small portion of the community, might prove our destruction, by what means shall we resist it successfully?

16. In seeking our country's protection, we are encouraged by the consideration that she desires the destruction of that system that endangers us and our labours. The destruction of the Slave Trade would be our safety, and it is only in its destruction that we, or any other persons who may desire to benefit Africa, can obtain a safe residence there. The means, therefore, that we would desire to be used is, first, as regards the King of Dahomey, that his professions of regard towards

British subjects may be made a means of inducing him to leave all towns in his neighbourhood, inhabited by English subjects, unmolested; and, secondly, such means used to prevent the export of slaves, as will deprive the slave-traders of all chance of success. This would be a great boon to Africa, and end in its becoming civilized, and a fruitful source of honest wealth to our country.

With these convictions on my mind, I have at your suggestion, committed them to writing, for I conceive it is our duty to trust in God, in the lawful use of such means as we may be able to obtain. If, however, no means are available, I hope we shall have no less confidence in the care of our heavenly Father, who has assured us of his protection. But in writing these remarks, I feel much less concerned about our own personal welfare and safety, than I do for those among whom my lot has been cast; and if no assistance can be obtained, I shall not feel the less safe. We will, with God's help, remain at our post as long as there are people to teach.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) H. TOWNSEND.

To the Honorary Secretary of the Church Missionary Society.

The Deputation will be able to represent to the Secretary of State that—

1. The establishment of commercial relations with the interior of Africa, through the Yoruba tribe, opens a prospect of the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade at its source, and the great increase of commerce in the Bight of Biafra* since the Slave Trade was suppressed there, shows what may be expected to take place when the Slave Trade is suppressed in the Bight of Benin.

2. Most of the advantages which were proposed by the expedition up the Niger in 1842, are now within reach of the British Government, by securing the free navigation of the Ogu. Traders from the banks of the Niger visit the principal markets of Abbeokuta, and there is little doubt that the road to Egga and Rabbah, the former of which towns was the highest point reached by the Niger expedition, might be opened for trade through that channel.

3. The favourable disposition of the Egba chiefs towards the English connexion; the reduction of their language to writing, and the introduction of the English language through the Sierra Leone emigrants and the Mission schools; the confidence which they have manifested by their letter and present to the Queen of England, and Her Majesty's gracious acceptance of the same; and the fact that the Yoruba tribes live under a free form of constitutional government, very different from the tyranny of the Kingdoms of Dahomey and Ashantee; their willingness to abolish the Slave Trade as soon as they can accomplish such a measure—are all circumstances which encourage the present appeal for some alliance by treaty with that tribe.

4. Numerous cases have occurred, of which full particulars can be furnished by the missionaries, in which liberated Africans, after their return to Abbeokuta, have been a second time kidnapped and sold at the slave-market at Lagos. Instances have occurred of such persons being a second time captured by the British cruisers. It may be urged, that such instances of the contempt and defeat of the benevolent intentions of the British Government afford a ground of inquiry and remonstrance, at least, with the Chiefs of Lagos.

5. The importance, therefore, of giving efficient protection and encouragement to the liberated Africans who have emigrated from Sierra Leone, and the claim which they have upon the favourable consideration and protection of the British Government, as well as the missionaries, who reside amongst them from motives of pure benevolence, and the traders in the factory, may be urged.

6. It may be suggested also, that if a mission similar to that of Mr

* See Mr. Dawson's evidence before the House of Lords Committee on the Slave Trade, and the tables he produced, pp. 269—281.

Cruickshanks were sent to the King of Dahomey, to intimate that the British Government expected that the liberated Africans and Europeans in Abbeokuta and Badagry should be unmolested, as well as the tribe which had received them with hospitality, it would probably deter the King of Dahomey from any hostile attempts against the Yoruba tribe.

7. The importance of keeping up a strict blockade of the Bight of Benin may be urged. Experienced naval officers have stated that such a blockade might be effected by an in-shore squadron of six or seven vessels, to the total suppression of the Slave Trade there. The blockade not to have reference to the lawful trade, but only to the Slave Traffic.

8. Other measures may be pointed out for effecting the objects in view—such as British forts at Badagry and at various other points of the Bight, and a gun-boat stationed in the lagoon, to communicate with the forts, and to protect lawful commerce.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

The President of the Church Missionary Society to Sagbua and other Chiefs of Abbeokuta.

I HAVE had the honour of presenting to the Queen the letter of Sagbua and other chiefs of Abbeokuta, and also their present of a piece of cloth.

The Queen has commanded me to convey her thanks to Sagbua and the chiefs, and her best wishes for their true and lasting happiness, and for the peace and prosperity of the Yoruba nation.

The Queen hopes that arrangements may be made for affording to the Yoruba nation the free use of the River Ogu, so as to give them opportunities for commerce with this and other countries.

The commerce between nations in exchanging the fruits of the earth and of each other's industry is blessed by God.

Not so the Commerce in Slaves, which makes poor and miserable the nation which sells them, and brings neither wealth nor the blessing of God to the nation who buys them, but the contrary.

The Queen and people of England are very glad to know that Sagbua and the chiefs think as they do upon this subject of commerce. But commerce alone will not make a nation great and happy like England—England has become great and happy by the knowledge of the true God and Jesus Christ.

The Queen is therefore very glad to hear that Sagbua and the chiefs have so kindly received the missionaries, who carry with them the Word of God, and that so many of the people are willing to hear it.

In order to show how much the Queen values God's word, she sends with this, as a present to Sagbua, a copy of this word in two languages, one the Arabic, the other the English.

The Church Missionary Society wish all the happiness and the blessing of eternal life to Sagbua and all the people of Abbeokuta.

They are very thankful to the chiefs for the kindness and protection afforded to their missionaries, and they will not cease to pray for the spread of God's truth, and of all other blessings in Abbeokuta and throughout Africa, in the name and for the sake of our only Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

(Signed) CHICHESTER.

No. 5.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 25, 1850.

I HEREWITH transmit to you a letter which I have addressed to the King of Dahomey, explaining generally the nature of your appointment as Her Majesty's Consul in the Bights, and the objects of your journey to his capital; and I have to instruct you to deliver it to the King.

I inclose a copy of the letter in question for your information.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 5.

*Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey.**Foreign Office, February 25, 1850.*

THE Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, has commanded me to inform you that she has been graciously pleased to grant a commission appointing John Beecroft, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul to the several chiefs of Africa whose territories lie between Cape St. Paul, at the western extremity of the Bight of Benin, and Cape St. John, at the southern extremity of the Bight of Biafra.

It will be an important part of Mr. Beecroft's duties to endeavour to prevent misunderstandings from arising between the chiefs of that part of Africa, or their dependents, and Her Majesty's subjects, either residing in or resorting to those parts for the purpose of lawful commerce.

Mr. Beecroft will be accompanied in his visit to you by Lieutenant Forbes, with whom you are already acquainted, and they are instructed to propose to you a formal Treaty for the abolition of Slave Trade within your dominions; and to explain to you the advantages which you and your territories would derive from the increase of lawful trade, and further to assure you of the earnest desire of the Queen and of her Government to contribute in every way to your welfare and prosperity.

Mr. Beecroft will reside at the Island of Fernando Po; and he will make periodical visits, as occasion may require, to the territories of the several chiefs to whom he is accredited. He is further instructed to take charge of and to forward to Her Majesty, or to Her Majesty's Government, any communications which you may have to make to them. He will confer with you as to the best means of developing the resources of your country and of increasing the lawful commerce of your dominions, and of thus adding to the wealth and comforts of yourself and your people.

The Queen trusts that you will receive Mr. Beecroft with the respect due to his character and rank, that you will put entire faith in what he shall state to you in her name, and that you will extend to him your protection, while within the limits of your dominions.

(L.S.)

(Signed)

PALMERSTON.

No. 6.

Lord Eddisbury to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 22, 1850.

I HAVE laid before Viscount Palmerston your letter of the 8th instant, inclosing a copy of a letter from Commodore Fanshawe,* transmitting the Treaty concluded on the 2nd February last with the Chiefs of Gallinas

* See Slave Trade Papers, Class A, presented to Parliament in 1851, No. 168, pp. 228, 229.

and Solyman, for the abolition of the Slave Trade; and I am in reply to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that Lord Palmerston is of opinion that the next step which it seems desirable to take with a view to clear the African coast north of the Equator from Slave Trade would be to induce the Chief of Lagos to conclude a similar Treaty, and a rigid watch upon his port might probably bring him to agree to do so.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDDISBURY.

No. 7.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord, *"Kingfisher," off Porto Novo, April 8, 1850.*

I HAVE the honour to communicate my safe arrival off Whydah yesterday at noon, and communicated with Captain Harvey, in command of the Bights Division. I was extremely sorry to learn that Commander Forbes had sailed in Her Majesty's brigantine "Bonetta" for Ascension, four days before our arrival.

In consequence of a communication from the King of Dahomey to Commander Forbes, that his yearly Customs intended to be kept in March, were postponed until the middle of May, that he had not any desire to receive visitors before that period; I was transferred with the presents for the King of Dahomey on board of Her Majesty's brig "Kingfisher." Her Majesty's steamer "Sphinx" left under steam for Ascension at 3 o'clock.

Under the present circumstance of the case, I deemed it prudent to proceed as soon as possible to my head-quarters, Fernando Po, taking with me the presents to be delivered by me to the King of Dahomey, according to your Lordship's instructions, on my visit at his annual Customs.

Captain Harvey has been very kind, and will order Her Majesty's steamer "Phoenix," Captain Wodehouse, to take me to head-quarters, and to return to Whydah by the 15th of May, by one of Her Majesty's vessels; it will enable me to arrange affairs at Fernando Po, and to visit some of the chiefs of the rivers in the Bight of Biafra, before I depart for Abomey, for I expect to be absent two or three months.

It is reported on shore at Whydah, that the King has been unsuccessful in his last marauding expedition; that three or four of his principal chiefs have been captured by the enemy, which misfortune has no doubt perplexed a man of such an unconquerable spirit. I imagine it is the main cause of the postponement of his Customs until the 15th of May. I understand he is very anxious to ransom them before he commences his parade and feast. I think my proceedings will meet with your Lordship's gracious approbation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

No. 8.

Mr. Hutton to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 10.)

My Lord, *Watling Street, October 8, 1850.*

I HAVE received a letter from Cape Coast, dated on the 7th August last, written by a nephew of mine who has been a resident on the coast of Africa during the last twenty years, the contents of which, so far as they relate to the reasons and motives of the King of Dahomey for evading or refusing to enter into a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, I feel desirous that your Lordship should be acquainted with; and if it has happened that Commander Forbes and Mr. Beecroft, who visited that chief

in July last, were unsuccessful in obtaining his assent to a formal treaty, and were not informed by him of the causes of objection, the information I rely will be considered of sufficient importance to excuse my sending your Lordship the letter itself instead of an extract from it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. M. HUTTON.

At a convenient opportunity your Lordship will doubtless do me the favour to let me have the letter back again.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Mr. Thomas Hutton to Mr. Hutton.

My dear Uncle,

Cape Coast, August 7, 1850.

THE great interest you have at all times taken for the welfare of this country, and your efforts in regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade, induced me to let you know what fell under my observation in my recent visit to Whydah and that neighbourhood.

M. da Souza, the notorious slave-dealer, died, as you are aware, about fifteen months ago; this man was in his 81st year when he died. He went to Whydah in the year 1792, in his 24th year. Various have been the rumours that occasioned his going there; he, however, himself once told me he came out as Secretary under the Portuguese Government to their fort in Whydah, and remained three years in that service, and then returned to the Brazils where I imagined he was born. He wished it supposed that he was a Spaniard by birth, and was always treated so in courtesy and styled Don. The Portuguese did not long continue to support their Government in Whydah, and the Slave Trade there soon fell into the hands of the most enterprising, the most so of whom was M. da Souza. He had for many years an extraordinary run of good luck, and it was imagined had amassed a large fortune. His fame as a slave-dealer gained him unlimited credit in the Havana and Brazil, and ship after ship arrived from those places at Popo, Whydah and Lagos, consigned to him generally with full cargoes of merchandize and specie; the goods were recklessly landed in bambo store-houses on the beach. It was presumed no native dare rob him; in this, however, he was mistaken, as there is now no doubt about the matter. The accumulated cargoes brought upon him an immense amount of debt; of this he appeared utterly regardless so long as it had the desired effect upon the natives to cause them to consider him possessed of inexhaustible wealth, and for the King of Dahomey to imagine the same, on whom he lavished vast sums of wealth, but who in return could never at any time supply more than a fraction of the amount in slaves for the large amount of property that was sent to him; and frequently from 30 to 40 ships in the year 1826 were lying in the Roadsteads of Whydah, all consigned to Da Souza, who had landed all their cargoes, but in return could seldom supply more than four or five cargoes of slaves. Many of the ships after staying out twenty months to two years, from their light construction went to pieces on the beach; others lost all their crews and were abandoned; some became prizes, and the general result was, as no account whatever was kept of cargoes landed, every species of extravagance and expenditure took place, to the ruin of the owners. Some of them sent out supercargoes to see what the former were about. Frequently the fate of the second supercargo and ship and cargo went the way of the first. So lucrative, however, was the profit on slaves, or the want of them so much required, that some years elapsed before these reckless consignees to Da Souza began to grow cautious, in fact, not before many were ruined. In the interim a more rigid law had passed respecting the capture of slave-trading vessels.

The King of Dahomey, who thus had had for years past countless wealth poured in upon him, became at last exacting when the rapid torrent ceased to flow so fast as formerly, and it took some years before he could in the least comprehend the causes that had

diminished the supplies to his agent Da Souza, who had years before virtually become so; to have the monopoly of the Trade, and who went annually to Dahomey with tribute to the King, and with vast supplies to his chiefs, to furnish them with means for the next slave-hunt. Year after year these supplies became gradually less, Da Souza having become gradually poorer, and troubled with a host of creditors in the Havana and Brazils. The principals, or consignees themselves, in many instances, came to Whydah to claim their debts. Da Souza keeping no accounts, generally denied all knowledge of the parties or the business on which they had come about; frequently he would absent himself or be in Dahomey months, when a party of creditors arrived from the Havana or Brazils. Yet such was the nature of the Trade, a lucky voyage or two enabled him to pacify the clamours of these distressed creditors. He treated them with country presents and an unbounded hospitality, and with tales of the endless resources of the King, who would at any time send him as many slaves as he pleased.

Various enactments took place, and the cruisers were more vigilant than ever, and matters grew worse and worse. Merchants in the Havana sent agents to have interviews with the King; heavy complaints were made against Da Souza, which, for policy sake, the King would not listen to, he himself not being the rightful successor, but upheld by Da Souza's influence and vast presents to the chiefs.

At last, after a few more years, it was arranged that agents from the Havana and Brazils might settle at Whydah, and Da Souza should give up shipping slaves, but to receive a commission of a doubloon for every slave that was shipped. On this he lived in the latter years of his life. He had also raised up duties or contributions on every native who held a slave, at per head, which enabled him latterly to keep up some appearance before the King and his chiefs; but this grew less and less, until he actually became tortured with the thought of want. When he died his stores were empty. The King of Dahomey sent to have his property taken up to him, and his chiefs entered into the house, and all that could be found was simply a little furniture and some plate; but neither money, goods, nor anything of value. This lesson has been most salutary to the King and his chiefs, to see that the man whom they considered was possessed of endless wealth, had died without the value of a keg of gunpowder in his stores to be fired over his remains, which is with them considered extreme poverty; thus confounding them, and shaking their confidence in the stability of the Slave Trade. Such was the end of one of the greatest slave-dealers of modern times.

Da Souza may be considered to have been the mainspring of the Slave Trade on that part of the coast; his long life, influence, and slave-trading notoriety, has given way, and his like is not likely to be replaced. The recklessness of the Havana and Brazilian consignees has ceased to flow to Whydah, and the stream of wealth in consequence has ceased to flow to Dahomey. This has curtailed the King's means to make extraordinary slave-hunts; and so great have been the recent changes, by the introduction of palm-oil and other legitimate commerce, combined with the vigilance of the cruisers, that the Slave Trade is being cut up root and branch; and if it was not for the feeling of being lowered in the eyes of the surrounding nations, it is supposed the King would most willingly give it up, as he has created so many hostile powers against himself; and the free trade in palm-oil that has extended all along that coast has enabled every petty state or tribe to furnish themselves with arms and ammunition against the common enemy, who was formerly the only power who could get them. The King well knows how everything is working against him, and he feels the loss of his ancient friend and counsellor, Da Souza. One thing alone is wanting to compel him to stop the Trade, that is, to get possession of Lagos, and either by treaty or force utterly extinguish the Slave Trade there. The King of Dahomey says, if that is done, he will then be willing to listen to a treaty: he adds, "Why do you send up to me, who live so far from the sea-side, to stop the Slave Trade, and the King of Lagos, who lives on the sea-side, is not questioned or stopped, nor any notice taken of what he does? First stop him on the sea-side,

and then, as the Slave Trade only exists between Popo and Lagos, being once stopped, I shall have no excuse but to submit to a treaty, if your cruisers compel me; but until the Slave Trade at Lagos is stopped either by treaty or by force, my chiefs will not listen to any proposition I may make towards its suppression."

The King of Dahomey sent to me several times when I was at Whydah, to go up to him, as he had something to say to me. With much difficulty I got myself excused; I had important matters to attend to at Badagry, and the rainy season being near at hand, I had no time to lose. I made the King perfectly aware of this, that no misunderstanding or ill-feeling should arise in his mind; and he then sent me a private and friendly message, and one of his confidential friends told me what I have stated above, that unless the Slave Trade is first put a stop to at Lagos, it will be useless for the British Government to send to him treaties for his agreement, as he considers it would be derogatory to his dignity, and would lower him in the eyes of his subjects and the nations around, who would not be able to understand the reason that an interior King should be the first that is made to stop the Slave Trade, while the sea-side King of Lagos, so near to come at, is not even spoken to on the subject, and carries on the Trade as if he was sanctioned in it.

If the English get possession of Lagos, there is an immediate blow to the Abbeokutian and Benin Slave Trade; and the good that would then ensue to those countries is incalculable, as they abound in cotton, indigo, palm-oil, and many other resources for industry and wealth. There would be little or no difficulty in the achievement in taking Lagos, and the best time of the year for it would be from November to February, the season is then fine and wholesome, and continues so until May, when the rains set-in, with the exception of the tornados in March. The latter rains falling in September, would render the Cradoo Lagoon to be deeper, as well as the entrance or Bar of Lagos, which, during those months, is quite smooth. The town Onim, or the capital of Lagos, where the King resides, is situated on the Island of Lagos, just at the entrance of the Cradoo.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS HUTTON.

No. 9.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 11.)

*"Bonetta," West Bay, Prince's Island,
July 22, 1850.*

(Extract.)

I HAVE the honour to communicate to your Lordship my proceeding since my last, dated the 4th of May.

I sailed from Fernando Po on the 5th, and arrived at Whydah on the 10th, in Her Majesty's steamer "Phoenix," and landed on the 14th of May, accompanied by Commander Forbes. Left with the presents for the King of Dahomey on the 21st, and arrived at Abomey on the 26th, and was graciously received by His Majesty. He told us that he would give us a day's respite to rest after our journey. Our next interview was on the 28th. I handed to the King Her Majesty's letter; he received it very cordially, and pressed it to his forehead, and then handed it to me to read. The conference relative to the Treaty for the suppression of the foreign Slave Trade was postponed until His Majesty's first Custom was over, which would last about six weeks; we then should have witnessed the most extensive and expensive part of his annual Customs.

The presents from Her Majesty's Government were given over next day to the Mayogau, His Majesty's Prime Minister.

After which I was anxious to have a day appointed to confer on this momentous question; after a great deal of procrastination the 4th of July was the day appointed. It commenced with heavy rain, and continued without intermission until 1 o'clock; when it partially cleared away; we then set off for the Palace. We of course were courteously received by His Majesty.

After a few complimentary remarks from the King, relative to our not remaining to see the whole of the annual Customs and so forth, I told him that it would be five or six months ere the whole of his Customs were finally finished; that would be too long to stop; he said yes, he did not wish it. His Majesty then desired us to proceed with our statement. We then laid before him the subsidy that Her Majesty's Government authorized us to offer to His Majesty the King of Dahomey, annually for five years, instead of three, subject to ratification.

His Majesty made no reply, he was silent on the matter; he did not once refer to the amount, whether it was too small or otherwise, although, with his own permission, it was read to him a second time.

He commenced to state in detail the friendship that had existed between His Majesty's grandfather and the King of England, and stated that the country of Dahomey had not changed, but remained the same to this day.

We endeavoured to expostulate and explain to His Majesty the advantages that he must ultimately reap from agriculture, growing of cotton, as well as cultivating the palm-oil tree.

In reply the King stated that they were a warlike people, the Dahomians, and of course unaccustomed to agricultural pursuits; that he would not be able to keep up his revenues, were he at once to stop the Slave Trade. Being desirous that it should be stopped in the minor ports, prior to his entering into a treaty, requests that Her Majesty's Government will endeavour to blockade between Quittah and Lagos; and then he would endeavour to enter into an agreement for the suppression of the Slave Trade in His Majesty's own country. He asked if we had seen any farms between the swamp and Abomey? He could not disgrace himself and subject himself to be laughed at by sending the women from his Palace-yard to plant and cultivate cotton.

He also stated that he had taken and destroyed all the countries that formerly cultivated cotton.

We endeavoured to impress on His Majesty that if he employed the prisoners that were captured, instead of selling them out of their country, he might grow as much cotton as he pleased, and furthermore, England would buy it all from him and his people; however, he did not appear desirous to listen to any further discussions on agriculture.

His Majesty then requested us to address a letter to Her Majesty the Queen of England, his friend, that she would allow Whydah to become a free port; stating that he had five agents, mentioning at the same time their names, viz., Isidore, Ignacio, and Antonio—three sons of the late Da Souza—also Domingo Martins and Joaquim Antonio. His Majesty's simple request was to have papers and flags to allow them to pass without hindrance or molestation from Her Majesty's cruisers. Our reply was, that it was impossible. He appeared much perplexed, and harped upon the same theme for some time; at last His Majesty said, "surely my friend the Queen of England will allow papers and colours for one vessel for myself to go free from the men-of-war." His pride must have fallen, when the great King of Dahomey condescended to ask for one vessel on similar terms as the five. When he found it impossible to induce us to change our theme, and write thus to the Queen of England, he felt much chagrined, and his countenance changed and became a shade lighter.

We then told him as he had declined the Queen of England's liberal offer, there was only the last resource, to go on the old plan and take his chance; that it was not within range of possibility that any favours could be shown His Majesty's vessels beyond the minor ports.

I then found that our mission was drawing to a close, and being determined to draw his attention to Abbeokuta, I asked his permission to allow me to read the Earl of Chichester's letter from the Queen to Sagbua, chief of the above-mentioned town. Finding the Queen's expressions of kindness to the chief so strong, with thanks for his kindness and protection to the missionaries, &c., His Majesty appeared to be greatly excited and jealous, and said that he was going to war with that place; they were bad people; that the white men and ladies must be removed. I then told him that I was going to visit it as soon as the dry season set

in, that would be about December. He then said, "you must take the Englishmen away from that place."

Mayogau, His Majesty's Prime Minister, made a very harsh remark, and said, "what right have the white men to go to and teach those fellows book palaver?"

His Majesty then said that when Freeman, from Cape Coast, visited Abomey, when he left he promised to send a white teacher, but he had not done so, neither had he heard any more on that matter.

He was then asked if a white missionary were sent to Abomey, would His Majesty afford him his protection and give him a grant of land to build a house; he replied in the affirmative, but he must reside at Whydah. It appears that he is averse to their residing at Abomey; but I really believe he was prompted by his Minister in a whisper to make that reply relative to the missionary residing at Whydah instead of Abomey.

I had another important request to lay before His Majesty with his permission, which was granted. I then stated that Mrs. Mc Carthy, wife of John Mc Carthy, liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, late Ahguay, and residents of Whydah, complained to me that her husband, John Mc Carthy, was confined as a prisoner in His Majesty's court-yard; that he had been seized between Attahpam and Popo, on his route from the former to the latter. Not any person knew anything about the matter. I told the Cabooceer of Whydah, that he must know her; but he denied it. The King ordered the Mayogau to inquire into the affair. After which the Queen's despatch was read, and he made his mark; we witnessed it. He had not any more to say; only that he would communicate with me at Fernando Po, either by letter or a messenger, by any vessel that may be going that route from Whydah. It rained; we continued a short time, but no appearance of dry weather, we asked permission to depart. He said we must taste with him before we left; we went through the ceremony. He conducted us outside of the porch; shook hands. With his respects and best wishes for our safe arrivals at our different destinations, we left the Palace of Abomey for our own domicile. It rained the remainder of the day.

Next morning it was fine and dry. The King sent our presents for the road, of cowries, cloth, rum, &c., also a little girl each. After which we entered our house and held a short conference; present the Mayogau, Yavogau, and Narwhey, relative to Mr. Mc Carthy: his wife was presented with her child. The Mayo said he would send her with a messenger to the home of the Cambodee, and they should both return here during the day. They asked when we intended to leave; we told them on the morrow, if we received a decisive answer about the man Mc Carthy. They said that was small palaver, and would soon be settled. They took their leave.

Next morning early the same party came again. We had to sit and hear the salutes fired; twenty-one guns for the Queen and thirteen for each of us, which took full two hours. After which the Mc Carthy question was again mooted; we stating that they did not make their appearance yesterday as they all, particularly the Mayogau, promised. The latter said that he sent her to the King yesterday, and that he sent her to the Cambodee's, to see if her husband was there. I then told them "I know from good authority that she is also a prisoner, but not with her husband; it is a farce; you are making fools of us." Commander Forbes expressed himself very warmly, and told them that he was going to England, and would report to the Queen that two British subjects were detained as prisoners in Abomey; at the same time he threw his memorandum-book on the table. They looked at him seriously, and said, "We hope you are not vexed; if so, we must tell our master the King." Rose and shook hands, and left us to take our breakfast before we started. A few packages being left detained us. Commander Forbes kindly offered to remain and start them off before him; and recommended me to leave for Cana. I left at 10 o'clock, and arrived at noon; half an hour afterwards Forbes joined. He remained to get a hammock and carriers for a sick man. I went on, and arrived at Tooboodoo at 2:20 P.M. Com-

mander Forbes did not arrive until 5 o'clock. During his detention a messenger arrived in post-haste, bringing with him Mc Carthy and his wife.

I presume they must have communicated the warm debate on the matter this morning; it shows a dread of the King's meeting the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government.

We started at 5 o'clock next morning; crossed the swamp, of which we had thirteen hours before we arrived at our halting-place. Ultimately arrived at Whydah on the 9th; found Her Majesty's sloop "Bonetta." "Gladiator" and "Jackal" arrived on the 11th. We succeeded in embarking through the surf on the 12th.

The King of Dahomey has been greatly exaggerated as to his wealth and power. I am perfectly satisfied that he is under the control and opinion of several of his principal officers; and it is too obvious that he has not the slightest desire to abandon the abominable Traffic.

The only effectual means to bring him to a full sense of his error, if international law will admit of it, is to take his own advice, and blockade Whydah.

Lagos is another point. If the legitimate chief could be seen and communicated with, so as to make a treaty with him for the suppression of the foreign Slave Trade, and place him at Lagos, his former seat of Government, it would release the people of Abbeokuta from the jeopardy that they are continually in, from the fear of the King of Dahomey.

Her Majesty's steamer "Gladiator" has captured two empty slavers. Her Majesty's steamer "Hecla" two with slaves, lately from Lagos. I believe they have been trying it hard there latterly.

Her Majesty's brig "Wolverene" took a felucca, two or three days ago.

I can only state that the King of Dahomey's power and wealth have been much exaggerated. As reported, he has 18,000 Amazons as a body-guard; we have only seen and counted 3000 and about the same number of men, at a grand review. He stated himself, the same day, that we did not see all his warriors; he had a great body guarding his frontiers. I estimate his army at 20,000 or 25,000.

His Majesty's account of his total expenditure of cowries for the year is only 42,000; his first account 32,000; about two-thirds more than we could account for.

I was anxious to get a just estimate of the number of tuns of palm-oil shipped from Whydah, &c., but I could not get any but exaggerated accounts, so I have declined making any statement at present, until my next visit at the latter end of the year.

I transmit to your Lordship an original letter, dated the 4th instant, addressed by the King of Dahomey to Her Majesty.

Inclosure in No. 9.

The King of Dahomey to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

Abomey, July 4, 1850.

From Guezo, King of Dahomey, to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

BEING desirous that the Slave Trade should be stopped in the minor ports, prior to my entering into a treaty, I have to request that you will endeavour to blockade the slave ports between Quittah and Lagos, and then I can endeavour to enter into an agreement for the stoppage of the Slave Trade in my own country.

At present, my people are a warlike people, and unaccustomed to agricultural pursuits; I should not be enabled to keep up my revenue, were I at once to stop the Slave Trade.

I am always desirous of being at peace with Great Britain.

I am anxious that some person should be sent as Governor of the British Fort at Whydah, and having known him, should wish for Lieutenant Forbes, R.N.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GUEZO, *King of Dahomey.*

his
X
mark.

Witness to the royal mark:

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT, *Her Majesty's Consul, Bights of Benin and Biafra.*
F. E. FORBES, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta."*

P.S.—Some years ago I entrusted two boys and a girl to the care of Mr. Freeman; I am anxious they should be returned.

I am anxious that missionaries should settle at Whydah.

No. 10.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 11, 1850.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of July, reporting your proceedings on your mission to Abomey.

Her Majesty's Government much regret the failure of your endeavours to induce the King of Dahomey to enter into a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade; which failure, however, appears to be by no means attributable to any want of diligence, or zeal, or efforts either on your part or that of Lieutenant Forbes.

Her Majesty's Government are also much concerned at learning that the King of Dahomey has expressed an intention of going to war with the Chiefs of Abbeokuta; and I have accordingly addressed a letter to the King upon these matters, which I have to instruct you to cause to be transmitted to him at an early moment and by a safe conveyance.

I inclose for your information a copy of this letter.

I at the same time inclose, for your information, a copy of a letter which, by my direction, has been addressed to the Admiralty, containing recommendations as to the steps to be taken for putting a stop to Slave Trade at Lagos; and at the other slave-trading ports which lie between that place and Quittah.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 11, 1850.

I AM commanded by Her Majesty to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which you addressed to her on the 4th of July last; and I have in the first place to beg you to accept the best thanks of the British Government for the very kind and hospitable manner in which you received Mr. Beecroft and Commander Forbes during their late visit to your Majesty's capital of Abomey; and I beg to assure you, Sir, that this friendly conduct on your part has still more increased the earnest desire of the British Government to cultivate the most intimate relations between the Kingdoms of Great Britain and of Dahomey.

But as nothing more contributes to the maintenance of friendship than a frank explanation of mutual feelings and opinions, I deem it of importance to advert to the statement which you made to Mr. Beecroft, that you intended to make war upon the Chiefs of Abbeokuta; and I feel

it right to inform you that the Queen of England takes a great interest in favour of that city and its people, and that if you value the friendship of England, you will abstain from any attack upon and from any hostility against that town and people.

The British Government would be very sorry that you should make such an attack: first, because Her Majesty's Government would deeply regret that any evil should happen to the people of Abbeokuta; and secondly, because Her Majesty's Government would feel much concern if anything should be done by your Majesty which would lead to an interruption of the friendly relations between yourself and the Government of England.

With respect to what you have written about the Slave Trade, the British Government is much disappointed at your answer, for they had hoped and expected that you would have complied with their very reasonable request, accompanied as it was by a handsome offer of full compensation for any temporary loss which you might sustain by putting an end to the Slave Trade. But as you have declined to consent to what the British Government has asked you to do, the British Government will be obliged to employ its own means to accomplish its purpose; and as England is sure to succeed in any object which it is determined to attain, the result will be, that the Slave Trade from Dahomey will be put an end to by the British cruisers, and thus you will sustain the temporary loss of revenue without receiving the offered compensation. But it is at least a satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government to think that your loss of revenue will only be felt by you for a short time, and that the profits which will arise to you from legal commerce will soon very amply repay you for any deficiency of revenue created by the cessation of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Mr. Addington to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 11, 1850.

I AM directed by Viscount Palmerston to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch from Mr. Beecroft,* Her Majesty's Consul in the Bights of Benin and Biafra, reporting the failure of his endeavours to induce the King of Dahomey to enter into a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and stating that the King of Dahomey had expressed an intention of making war on the Chiefs of Abbeokuta. I am to transmit to you also a copy of a letter† addressed by the King of Dahomey to Her Majesty, stating his views with respect to the Slave Trade.

I am to request that you will lay these papers before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and that you will state to their Lordships that it appears to Lord Palmerston that it seems clear that the King of Dahomey will not be induced to enter into any agreement to abandon Slave Trade until the Chief of Lagos shall have previously been brought to enter into such an engagement, and until Slave Trade shall have been effectually stopped at Whydah.

It seems, therefore, to Lord Palmerston, that measures should forthwith be resorted to for the purpose of putting an end to Slave Trade at Lagos, and that with this view the present Chief of Lagos should be invited to enter into an engagement similar to that which was agreed to by the chiefs at Gallinas; and if he should refuse to do so, that measures similar to those which were enforced against Gallinas, should be brought to bear upon Lagos, or that steps should be taken to replace in authority at Lagos the former chief, who is understood to be now at Badagry, and who would, it is believed, willingly subscribe to the proposed engagement.

In the meantime it would be desirable that the strictest watch which

* See No. 9.

† See Inclosure in No. 9.

circumstances might admit of should be established, to prevent slaves from being exported from Whydah.

It is obvious that the King of Dahomey, who is the greatest originator of Slave Trade in that part of Africa in which his territory lies, will yield, in regard to that Trade, only when compelled by necessity to do so, and when he shall be quite sure that the profits which he would give up by relinquishing that pursuit, would not pass into the hands of any less conceding neighbour.

I inclose for their Lordships' information, a copy of a letter* which Viscount Palmerston has addressed to the King of Dahomey on this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 11.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 15.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 13, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to communicate that since my last despatch of the 22nd ultimo, from West Bay, Prince's Island, in Her Majesty's sloop "Bonetta," Commander Forbes, I had the next day a conference with Commodore Fanshawe, relative to the communication he had received from Commander Forbes and myself, that it was the King of Dahomey's full intention to attack Abbeokuta the ensuing dry season, and His Majesty strongly urged me to remove the white men, &c. I then told him that I was going there about the same time that he would be *en route* for the same place.

Under such circumstances, Commodore Fanshawe, with my concurrence, deemed it prudent and necessary to address a strong remonstrance to His Majesty the King of Dahomey against any act of hostilities or oppression committed upon the people of Abbeokuta, for the British Government take a great interest in their welfare, and would see with much concern and displeasure any acts of violence committed against them; that, moreover, there are dwelling among those tribes many liberated Africans and British-born subjects, whom Her Majesty's Government are bound to protect from injury.

And should His Majesty not abstain from committing aggressions against these people, Her Majesty's Government will not refrain from commencing a hostile blockade against Whydah.

I am quite satisfied that it was always during my sojourn at Abomey, apparent that the working of his own mind has been a friendly disposition to Her Majesty's Government, and a desire not to give offence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

No. 12.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston —(Received October 15.)

(Extract.)

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 13, 1850.

I BEG leave to communicate that I sailed in Her Majesty's steamer "Jackal," from West Bay, Prince's, on the evening of the 23rd ultimo, and arrived here on the 25th. Her Majesty's steamer "Gladiator" arrived here to coal on the 31st ultimo, and sailed on the 7th instant, taking with her Commodore Fanshawe's despatch for the King of Dahomey, as mentioned in my other despatch of this date; also mine to the missionaries at Badagry and Abbeokuta, with a full and clear explanation of this marauding chief's intentions towards them. He is jealous of them since white missionaries have established themselves there.

* See Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

No. 13.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Eddisbury.

My Lord,

Admiralty, October 21, 1850.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, the copy of a letter from Commodore Fanshawe, dated 19th July last, with its inclosed letter and journal from Lieutenant Forbes, of Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta," detailing the particulars of his late mission with Mr. Beecroft to the King of Dahomey, with reference to the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

"Centaur," West Bay, Prince's Island,
July 19, 1850.

Sir,

I HAVE to request you will do me the honour to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the accompanying copies of a letter and journal which I have received from Lieutenant Forbes, of Her Majesty's brigantine "Bonetta," detailing the particulars of his late mission with Mr. Beecroft to the King of Dahomey, with a statement of the expenses incurred by him.

Although the mission has not had an immediate satisfactory result, I still entertain a hope that it may lead to measures which will cause the abolition of the Slave Trade in the King's dominions.

The decision and intelligence manifested by Lieutenant Forbes on this occasion, quite confirm the opinion which caused me to select him for the service, first to accompany the late Mr. Duncan, and I beg therefore to recommend him as an officer deserving their Lordships' approbation.

Lieutenant Forbes is the bearer of Mr. Beecroft's despatches to the Foreign Office, and also of a letter from the King of Dahomey and a present from him of two country cloths to Her Majesty the Queen.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Lieutenant Forbes to Commodore Fanshawe.

"Bonetta," West Bay, Prince's Island,
July 8, 1850.

Sir,

IN inclosing my journal reporting my proceedings on my late mission to Dahomey, I have the honour to state that, May 14, I landed at Whydah with Mr. Consul Beecroft, and arrived at Abomey, May 26, where I remained six weeks. Returned to Whydah and re-embarked, July 12, on board the "Bonetta," and resumed the command of her.

Having had several interviews and conversations with His Majesty the King of Dahomey and his Ministers, I have formed the following conclusions:—

1st. That the King of Dahomey will not give up the Slave Trade without some show of coercion.

2nd. That His Majesty's Ministers are one and all slave-dealers; and if the King was willing, he has not the power to treat.

3rd. That His Majesty's wealth has been much exaggerated.

4th. That there is no Dahomey nation, but a few chiefs holding feudal rights under a high chief, Guezo. The case of John McCarthy, mentioned in my journal of proceedings, will point out the fear entertained of the stoppage of all trade.

His Majesty's recommendations to the Queen to stop the trade in the ports from Quittah to Lagos, illustrates the efficiency of such a demonstration on Whydah.

The King is about to make war on Abbeokuta. Mr. Beecroft and myself have explained to him that in Abbeokuta dwell many British subjects; and that Sagbua, the Chief, has sought British protection.

If it were represented to King Guezo, that if he makes war on Abbeokuta he declares war upon England, it would perhaps save Abbeokuta, or enable you to stop the trade at Whydah, which, if the King does not open by relinquishing the Slave Trade, will in a very short time ruin the country.

A present of powder and musket-balls would raise the confidence of the Abbeokutians.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 13.

Journal of Lieutenant Forbes, on his Mission to Dahomey.

(Extract.)

May 13.—Arrived off Whydah, and embarked on board Her Majesty's ship "Phoenix," where I had the honour of being introduced to Mr. Beecroft.

May 14.—Landed, surf rather high, one chest of muskets: twenty lost. Her Majesty's ship "Kingfisher" saluted, twenty guns. British Fort saluted as we entered the town of Whydah.

May 15.—6 A.M., visited Viceroy, and introduced Mr. Beecroft as Her Majesty's Consul, and explained to him our position as Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries. Took private apartments in the British Fort.

May 16. Viceroy sent to apologize, as a King's messenger had arrived, that he could not call.

May 17.—Viceroy called. He starts on 20th; we are to start 21st. Isidore da Souza is Charchar; Ignacio da Souza, Cabooceer; Antonio da Souza, Amigo del Rey; three appointments out of one that their father enjoyed—the reason obvious: His Majesty receives three presents.

May 18.—Called on Charchar to thank him for the use of his canoes to land Her Majesty's presents. All appeared poverty and decay.

May 19.—Sunday.

May 20.—Received 2 casks 80 dollars of cowries.

May 21.—Sent on baggage. At 5 started, and at 9 arrived at Torree.

May 22.—Arrived at Allahdah. In the evening, Charchar and Ignacio da Souza arrived with the ostentation, dirt, and display of African officials.

May 23.—Arrived at Wybagau.

May 24.—Crossed the swamp; rather bad. Arrived at Zobardoh, and put up in a neat farm-house in a fine cultivated country.

May 25.—Arrived at Canamina. This being the same route I took in my last mission, I do not describe it. Cana deserves a line in praise. The level park-lands, the high state of cultivation, neatness and cleanliness of habitation, aged of both sexes, serenity of atmosphere—all combined, lead the ideas far from Africa, slavery, and sacrifices. Dahomey, carrying war and devastation into all the neighbouring countries, has herself enjoyed the sweets of peace. It is not the Dahomians who war, but forced mercenaries; nor are the Dahomians much the gainers by these harassing slave-hunts—old age is decapitated to ornament the

Palace, strength and youth sold to enrich the Brazils, their proceeds wasted at the horrible and ridiculous Customs of "Hivae noo ee wha," occurring once a-year. Charchar arrived. Sent to Abomey to report our arrival; received in answer that we rise at cock-crow and proceed.

May 26.—At 7 arrived at Abomey. Immediately inside the gate, on wheels (a present from the late Charchar), was a brigantine about twenty-eight feet long, well rigged, under all plain sail, union-jack at the fore, French tricolour at the peak. Dressed in full uniform, Charchar and Brazilians arrived and took guard a-head of us, attended by 140 armed slaves in Dahomian uniforms. At 9 we were met by the Cabooceers. I have described a meeting before. The Charchar was bent on giving us his left, in which he failed; and to show his bad taste, muttered audibly "Politico, politico!" A messenger arriving from the King addressed him, in hopes that he and his "whites" were quite well; he was constrained to pass on to us and thus showed we were two parties. It is somewhat odd that the late Da Souza was the patron of nearly all English visitors to Abomey, Mr. Duncan, Dr. Dickson, and nearly so to Mr. Cruickshanks. Forming procession, the Cabooceers preceded them, Mr. Beecroft and myself followed by the Charchar, the guns of the saluting battery firing twenty-one guns in honour of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and thirteen each for Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries.

French flag last visit was white.

Antonio did not accompany the other Da Souza, he remained to ship slaves for the family, but fortunately the "Gladiator" took the slaver. She was consigned to the Charchar.

The King's reception was much the same as described in my former mission—we were received first, and the Charchar "passed" first; honours were divided. The court-yard was decorated with flags of all colours; among them many union-jacks, intended doubtless as a compliment, although the only other great display was of human skulls. I remarked last journal, that the skull-ornaments of the wall were in many parts blown down; now there are few left, and the King has no intention of renewing them. Yet how inconsistent! the Palaver-house, in the centre of the square, was ornamented with 148 newly cleaned from the Okeadon war (one of the most cowardly acts that ever disgraced a tyrant). The only other ornament was a gaudy tent in front of the Palace, under which was a State chair. At noon we were permitted to retire to our new home in the Mayo's Palace, having taken a mixture—in the United States called "stone wall"—of rum, gin, brandy, beer, hock, lemonade gazeuse, besides liqueurs. In the evening the Mayo visited.

May 27.—The Mayo visited, and invited us to be present at his levee.

The Palace of Dangelahcordeh has many gates; to-day at each gate a Minister held his levee. At 2 P.M. we arrived at the Mayo's, whose canopy of umbrellas formed the apex from which a ring was extended, here and there studded with umbrellas and banners; on a high stool of state sat the Minister, surrounded by his officers, who left a lane in front for new-comers to advance through and salute the chief. On our arrival we were seated on his right, and exchanged compliments in a glass of Frontignac. In the ring were two bands, and in gaudy attire two troubadours (the only appropriate names for them; they were not minstrels, and certainly not ballad-singers, but between the two); each carried a staff of office—a blue crutch stick with a device carved in the staff, and to each stick was a yellow handkerchief. They sang about the wars of the Dahomians and histories of the Kings of Dahomey; in this way only are the records kept. The troubadours were father and son, and the office is hereditary and lucrative; if failing male heir, by adoption. First, the elder sang how the King had conquered Attahpam; but the greatest achievement appeared to be in the capturing of a lady, on which he had bestowed a largesse on the troubadours; then how the King had killed Ahchardee, King of Jena; and pointing to a handsome tunic and damask-silk crimson Turkish trousers, gave me his clothes. He then sang at length in praise of Queen Victoria, the friend of Guezo, for which we gave him a breaker of rum. A court fool, with whitewashed face, surmounted by a slouched hat, exercised his ingenuity; but not being initiate in the idiom of the language his witticisms were lost to us.

About an hour after our arrival, headed by guards, banners, and official emblems, arrived His Majesty's sisters and daughters, followed by

bands of discordant music and attendants carrying changes of raiment, gaudily dressed in cotton cloths and coral and Popo beads. The Princesses, about thirty in number, took possession on our right in front, and made it very warm. The elder troubadour was soon dismissed, the younger pleased better. After remaining about an hour, the royal ladies rose *en masse*, and each producing a small decanter, which it appeared was her prerogative to have filled with rum, assailed the aged Minister. A scene followed, highly derogatory to the dignity of royalty. As soon as all were satisfied, they took leave, and forming procession marched off to the next gate, where a similar scene followed. During this time the Mayo received his friends, and entertained each with a glass before he dismissed him; all knelt when approaching him and threw dirt on their heads. Taking leave, we called in at the Viceroy's levee; who regaled us with beer and effervescing lemonade. These levees are called *Zandro*.

May 28.—At 8 A.M., in full uniform, we were commanded to the Palace, and according to the Court etiquette, were gazed at by the many-headed for an hour. During the Customs, each Minister, Cabooceer, or military officer, has to assemble his men at 6, and when dressed and ready (every morning), to make the circuit of the Palace Square in procession three times. At the arrival at the gate in each round, he has to prostrate, while his retainers fire, dance, and sing; this finished, if on duty, he places his insignia of office under a long tent, and stretches himself on a mat until required: if not, he plants his umbrella, and, seated on his stool, holds a short levee, and then retires. At 9 we entered the Palace, and were shown to the entrée of the audience-chamber; His Majesty lounged on a bed. There were present the Mayo, Yavogau, Cambodee, Toonoonoo, and Maehaepah,—Minister of Foreign Affairs, Viceroy of Whydah, Treasurer, Head-Eunuch, and the Amazon Grand Vizier. The seal of Her Majesty's letter having been broken by the King, Mr. Beecroft read it in short sentences to the interpreters (three, and unfortunately none of the best).

As far as could be judged, His Majesty received its contents with pleasure; promised to consider the question; directed us to view his Customs well.

From certain remarks elucidated concerning the emoluments of the Slave Trade, we considered it prudent to acquaint His Majesty that we were authorized to offer a subsidy, and we were in power to put it in force immediately His Majesty should enter into a treaty; but that it was impossible to pronounce the sum until we had witnessed his disbursements.

The interview was flattering. On our return, sent the Queen's gracious presents. (List annexed.)

The Ministers and Cabooceers paraded the town at the head of their bands and retainers, firing constantly.

May 29.—At 7-30 we were again ushered into the audience entrée, now occupied by Maehaepah, very busy winding up, one after another, eight Sam Slick's clocks, some upside-down, others on their sides, and one, by mistake, in its proper position; from this state we rescued them, but not before I had horrified the stately dame by placing one foot within the sacred precincts of the harem. To prevent so unprecedented an occurrence, the Maehaepah and Toonoonoo knelt one on each side the threshold, and thus exhibited clocks, musical-boxes, watches, &c., on the particular efficacies of each of which we were called upon to dilate.

At 10 we passed through another gate. Entering a large court-yard, on the opposite side, under a canopy of umbrellas of every colour, and ornamented with strange devices, sat the King on a sofa, and over him a small European parasol of crimson-velvet and gold. His Majesty wore a blue flowered satin robe, a gold-laced hat, and sandals ornamented with silver; round his neck a neat gold chain.

On the side of the court occupied by the throne sat the royal wives and female officers, all well-dressed in a variegation of silks, cloths, &c., and the Amazons in full uniform, all seated on their hams, rested the stocks of their long Danish muskets on the ground, while the polished barrels stood up like a forest. In one part of the female group sat twenty-eight with blue crutch sticks, each ornamented with a yellow

handkerchief; these were the sticks of office of the female troubadours, and each was to relate in her own way the romance of history of Dahomey.

Standing facing the throne (the Mayo, Yavogau, and Cabooceer of the British Fort, Heechelee, lay prostrated, throwing dirt on their heads), we bowed three times to the King. This was a neutral ground, and was occupied during the day by the Maehaepah and Toonoonoo, or the female Grand Vizier and Head Eunuch, who, on their knees, communicated the royal pleasure or any message. The King, being guarded by his Amazons, could not be approached by one of the opposite sex. On this neutral ground were the skulls of Kings in calabashes, surrounding a newly-turned heap, which contained the head of a victim sacrificed last night, his body to be buried under the tent (pole) to be used by His Majesty to-morrow. Some of these skulls were ornamented with brass, copper, coral, &c.: one in a copper pan illustrated a fearful tale of treachery and murder, the skull of Ahchardee, Chief of Jena. The history may not be out of place in this journal.

Onsih, King of Jena, died; and Dikkon, heir-apparent, hated, was rejected. He escaped to Dahomey, then reigned over by Adonooza, and implored him to march upon Jena; Adonooza refused, his mother being a Jena woman. Ahchardee (until they should choose a King) was nominated President; Adonooza deposed. Guezo marched an army three successive years against Ahchardee, and was each time defeated. Resolved to effect by stratagem what he had failed to do by open war, Guezo invited Ahchardee to Dahomey to witness his Customs. Receiving hostages and presents, he came, and was returned loaded with presents. A second year he was allowed to go back unmolested. The third, he came with near a thousand traders, at the Custom called "Ek anee noo ahtoh meh." He was thrown with the victims, sacrificed, his people taken into slavery.

After saluting the Monarch we turned round, and on the opposite side were from 300 to 400 males, Ministers, Cabooceers, officers and soldiers. As with the Amazons, in one part were twenty-eight sticks belonging to troubadours; all were shaded by large umbrellas. Immediately opposite the throne were chairs and a table set with decanters and glasses for ourselves, under a canopy of handsome umbrellas; on the right sat the Charchar and the Brazilians, similarly accommodated.

Taking our seats, the *coup-d'œil* was very pleasing: all were well-dressed; the Ministers and Cabooceers in flowing robes. Besides the diversity of colour in dress and umbrellas, there were also number of banners and Fetish ornaments. The day's jubilee is named "Eh nah ek beg" (the Day of Giving).

Business commenced by two male troubadours introducing themselves; then one at a time recited the exaggerated accounts of the wild warlike adventures of Guezo and his ancestors; interlucant praises and visionary accounts of the future. As though gratifying to the Monarch who had deposed him, they desecrated the name of his brother Adonooza, as totally unfit to reign over a powerful and brave nation such as the Dahomian. At the mention of the name of any member of the Royal Family deceased, all the Ministers, Cabooceers, and officers, male and female, had to prostrate and kiss the dust, &c. The troubadours by no means spared them: they hailed Guezo as the greatest of African Monarchs; he had only to command, and it was done; enumerated all the conquered States. That any country that insulted Dahomey must fall; and there still remained three to conquer, Tappah, Yoruba, and Abbeokuta. (In the Jena war, the Yorubas—a part of whom the Dahomians consider a separate nation from the Abbeokutians—assisted against Dahomey. In the Okeadon war, in 1848, the Abbeokutians took an Amazon general (umbrella) and standard and regiment, and, as the Dahomians term it, "Made children for them.") Two Amazons next spouted their visionary lore, amusing themselves at times calling on the multitude to laugh for joy at the recital of the King's exploits: when first, the females would exercise their risible faculties, then the males give a sort of Irish howl; now and again the singers called on the multitude to join chorus,

which was readily complied with. As each two were attended by a discordant band, there was no lack of music.

The only innovations were: 1st. Ahhopeh, the King's brother, spoke of the impropriety of removing cowries, to be distributed from the market at night, stating that as there were so many strangers in the town, it would be dangerous to tempt them, particularly as the penalty, even to a Prince, would be death. The King concurred, and agreed that the cowries should be distributed on the 31st, and removed at 4 A. M. of that day. 2nd. At noon His Majesty crossed over, and took a glass of liqueur with us (being covered by cloths while he did so). Guns fired, Ministers and Cabooceers danced, and all huzzaed.

As each two, male or female, of the troubadours finished their lays, they received a present for themselves and bands, in all about thirty, thus:—

Cowries, 28 heads or dollars.
Cloth, 28½ pieces, or 28 dollars.
Handkerchiefs, 4 pieces.
Rum, 2 gallons.

The total expense of this day by my calculation was, cowries, 784 dollars; cloth, 784 dollars; handkerchiefs, 102 dollars; rum, 28 dollars: in all 1698 dollars.

At 3 P. M., raining hard, we were commanded to retire.

Seated five hours over damp ground. Had it not been for the novelty, would, doubtless, have been irksome.

In the evening the Mayo, Yavogau, and Narwhey, attended by the Royal command to explain to us the expenses of the day, and brought strings of cowries, which we had to count, to satisfy ourselves of the correctness of their statement, which ran as follows: cowries, 7,540 dollars; cloth, 644 pieces; iron armlets, 92 in number; rum, 140 bottles. Further, that His Majesty had that morning thrown away 400 dollar heads of cowries, and 40 pieces of cloth, and intended that night to throw away 800 dollar heads of cowries; that the sum total of the day's expenses was 26,000 dollars in value.

At 3 P. M., when we left, only four males and four females had been paid; we allowed all to be paid, and that would have taken till at least 8 P. M., and these officers were with us at 6 P. M. His Majesty, we had expected, would take every advantage of us; but this was rather too much; it reminded me of the stories handed down by the late Da Souza, with which he fed English visitors. And well may the Royal Exchange be laid at 300,000 dollars per annum, when (at the most liberal allowance) the expenses, actually 1698 dollars, are given as 26,000 dollars. The description of the "Ek gae noo ahtoh meh" will, I trust, prove, together with Ahhohpeh's speech, that neither the 800 nor 400 dollars were distributed; whilst the Custom called "Ek bah tong ek beh" will pretty well illustrate the impossibility of the gross sum, 26,000 dollars in cowries and cloth, being distributed in one day by the Dahomian Monarch.

Before leaving, the Mayo solemnly charged us, that neither ourselves nor our servants be found in the streets to-night; His Majesty was going to sacrifice to the manes of his ancestors.

May 30.—At 7.30 we started for the Palace. At a little distance from our house, the road was fenced off; the King's wives were going to carry goods to market, and no one might meet them.

At the foot of the ladder ascending to the Palaver-House, in the square of the Palace of Dangelahcordeh, lay six newly-cut-off human heads, the blood still oozing; at the threshold of the entrance gate was a pool of human blood. Within, the scene was entirely different from yesterday: in the centre of the Palace-court stood a huge crimson cloth tent, forty feet high, and of forty feet diameter, ornamented with devices of men cutting off others' heads, calabashes full of human heads, and other emblems of brutality and barbarity; on the top stood the figure of a Dahomian, with half his head shaved, supporting a staff from which flew a white standard; on it was emblazoned a jar, having one skull for a stopper, standing in a large dish on three other skulls (blue). Although

the King had not arrived, we had to pay the same compliment as yesterday (similarly attended) to the throne, which was inside the tent, around which were the Amazons, wives, &c. On the neutral ground were the same skulls. Turning round, our position faced His Majesty's, and about were the Ministers, &c., all dressed as near as possible alike, in red striped flowing robes, and laden with necklaces. In a short time His Majesty arrived, dressed in a coloured silk robe and laced hat. Having taken his seat on the throne under the tent, the business of the day commenced by a procession of fifty-eight Ministers and Cabooceers, each carrying a sword, a scimitar, and a club. After passing the throne three times, all prostrated, and threw dirt on their heads.

To give the whole account would be to make this journal prolix; I shall therefore annex a programme of the processions, which lasted till 3 P.M., and comprised between 6000 and 7000 people, and here merely make a few comments.

The day's Custom is called "Ek bah tong ek beh" (Carrying Goods to Market), and is really a display of as much of the whole wealth of the Monarch as can be, without material damage, drawn or carried to the market of Ahjahhee and back; a distance, both ways, of about a mile. The day was cloudy, and the dresses by no means good. From the programme a very fair calculation of the actual wealth of the King may be made: 1793 women carried cowries, each three heads, on an average, some not more than half-a-head; being in total 5,379 heads of cowries or dollars. Among the display of wealth were many articles of little value—some 50 pots-de-chambre, to wit—His Majesty could not be aware of the use of; 90 women carried common jugs; 170 carried each one piece of cloth cut in two and rolled; 46 ditto white baft ditto; 47 carried each six Dutch pipes; 70 ditto empty blue bottles; 50 carried a washing-jug each. It has been frequently related to me, that His Majesty's possesses whole services of plate. How ridiculous! All his silver ornaments were displayed to-day, and his artisan brother, Sohsar, and Hatongee the silver-smith, were by command seated near us to explain their value. In all they were 90 in number, carried by as many women; among them coffee-pots, tea-pots, cream-jugs, and baskets of European manufacture; 33 were silver-headed canes, and the remainder large hollow ornaments of native make; at least so we were told, but they were wrapt in cloths. Of the fashion of His Majesty's knives and forks we had a daily sample, and certes they would be of equal curiosity in England as Dahomey, of iron. The collection of a country fair, carried in a similar manner, would have far exceeded the wealth displayed in value and appearance. The dresses of a minor theatre would have excelled.

In a country like Dahomey it is an immense collection, but when the exactions of the Monarch are considered, scarcely to be wondered at. If a Dahomian receives a present he must lay it before the King, and if admired, even the Prime Minister would find it more to his interest to forego it.

Besides goods carried, there were several bands of troops, male and female, and several tasteful groups at different periods took position, danced and sang before the King. Bands were playing in all directions; dwarfs, hunchbacks, court fools, albinos, besides an ostrich and an emu, and several dogs of strange breed strolled about the neutral ground; lastly came the ancient ladies, and those holding offices of regal rank, with the insignia of their separate offices; among them numbers of human skulls in drums, banners, knives, &c. These were disgusting enough, but to behold twelve unfortunate human victims for to-morrow's sacrifice—carried round, eight on men's, four on women's heads, bound hand and foot and tied in small canoes, dressed in white with high glazed red caps, followed by an alligator and a cat, also for sacrifices,—was fearfully so. As the victims passed the throne of their superstitious tyrant they were halted, and addressed by the Mayo on the munificence of the Monarch, who sent them each a head of cowries wherewith to purchase a last meal.

Once during the day the King left his tent to pay us a visit and drink a glass of liqueur.

As yesterday, the Machaepah and Toonoonoo were continually engaged, and each point of the proceedings was explained to us through this channel from His Majesty.

At 3 it rained hard, and we were allowed to leave, with much to reflect upon.

Rum was distributed in bottles to the different companies, and about 800 dollars in cowries.

May 31.—At 7 A.M. we were summoned to witness the Custom called “Ek gace noo Ahtoh” (Throwing away Cowries from Ahtoh).

As we left our house His Majesty was passing, and sent us a bottle of rum. Joining in procession we were followed by the Amazon host. Passing round the walls of the Palace of Dangehlahcordeh we arrived on an open ground called Ahjahhee, at once the market-place and parade-ground, and now occupied by a huge raised platform, hung with cloths and ornamented with banners of every hue, among them two union-jacks, and surmounted by huge umbrellas and small tents. On the west side of this platform of Ahtoh was a fence-work of prickly acacia, outside of which was a band of soldiers; inside fourteen human beings for sacrifice. As soon as the King arrived he ascended the Ahtoh, and immediately several bands of naked men (unless a grass cloth bag round the waist be termed clothing) marched past; in each band several rode on the shoulders of others; headmen; these were the soldiers of the King, his sons, the Ministers and Cabooceers.

I believe it has hitherto been supposed that on this particular day of the Customs, His Majesty enjoys a species of liberality unknown in the the annals of the histories of any other known nations, in the scrambling to his people goods of all descriptions,—cowries, silk, tobacco, rum, &c., and also live sacrifices. I say I believe so, for such has been my own opinion, deduced from Dalyell and from report. Such is by no means the case. The public are not admitted to the scramble, and the whole performance is a cheat. The scramblers, as has been stated, are the soldiers (about 300), and the goods are their pay, and this day did not amount to more than 1000 dollars in cowries and 300 dollars in cloth. The throwing away occupied between seven and eight hours.

Taking seats on the left, the King (all being hustled together) addressed the scramblers, directing them not to fight or quarrel, and having thrown a few by way of trial, commanded us into his presence. Ascending the Ahtoh, the scene was extraordinary: the floor was laid with rushes, and on it about 3000 heads of cowries, and 500 pieces of cloth, besides rum and tobacco; at one end, under a gorgeous umbrella, dressed in a black waistcoat, a cotton cloth round his loins, and a white nightcap, stood the King, labouring hard “throwing goods.” Under a range of umbrellas, facing the multitude, stood the Ministers and Cabooceers, one of which remained vacant for our use. The back part of the Ahtoh was occupied by small tents for the ladies of the Harem; while, as we entered, under separate canopies, were two tables set with decanters, &c., for ourselves and the Charchar to retire to.

Taking our stand under the umbrella, the crowd appeared to be one living mass of humanity. Cowries became the property of the lucky ones who caught them: but not so the cloths,—no sooner caught, than if not handed to the headmen riders, a fight ensued terrible to behold, the riders running over the mob as if on dry land, and it was sure to be found.

As the mass oscillated, it emitted an effluvium only to be compared to the fetid vapour that rises from the over-crowded decks of a slave-ship, and a steam arose as dense as the miasm from a swamp. A guard of soldiers paraded the area during the day.

Soon after our arrival, His Majesty sent us a present of ten heads of cowries and two pieces of cloth.

During the day, as will be seen by the programme, several presents were given, altogether to the amount of 1000 heads of cowries, and about 200 pieces of cloth, a little rum and tobacco. Among the recipients were two Kings, an Ashantee ambassador, a head mullum, &c.

About noon the brigantine before alluded to was drawn up, and a lane made through the mob; a boat on wheels put off to land her cargo of rum, cloth, and cowries, &c. At 10 we breakfasted, supplied by His Majesty, and after breakfast joined the King in "throwing away." It was easy to observe that one party was the grand receiver, and that party the King's. Acting on this, a man named Pohvehsoo, captain of musketoons and court fool, and as we have since heard, headsman, had ingratiated himself; knowing him to be the King's friend, we aimed three cloths filled with cowries at him; having received the third, His Majesty ordered him off, as having had enough.

If I were to conclude the history of this day's Customs here, I should merely remark that there might be a policy in making appear munificence the distribution of a sum of money, that if doled out to each individually, would prove a miserable pittance, although it tended much to debase the minds of his people, if that were possible. But what follows is almost too revolting to be recorded.

As if by general consent, and evincing a slight dawning of decency, hardly to be expected from these truly barbarians, silence reigned, and when broken, the eunuchs would strike a metal instrument each was supplied with, to enforce it, sounding the knell of eleven unfortunate human beings, whose only crime known to their persecutors was that they belonged to a nation Dahomey had warred against, Attahpam. Out of fourteen now brought upon the platform, we, the unworthy instruments of Providence, succeeded in saving the lives of three. Lashed as described in yesterday's journal, except that only four were in boats, the remainder in baskets, these unfortunates, gagged, met the gaze of their enemies with a firmness perfectly astonishing—not a sigh was breathed. One cowardly villain put his hands to the eyes of a victim, who sat with his head down, to feel for moisture; finding none, he drew upon himself the ridicule of his hellish coadjutors.

Ten of these human offerings to the vitiated appetite of his soldiers, and the alligator and cat, were guarded by the male soldiers, and to the right of the King; four to the left were guarded by women.

Being commanded into the presence, the King asked if we wished to be present at the sacrifice; with horror we declined, and begged to be allowed to save a few by purchasing. After a little hesitation, we were asked which we would have; I claimed the first and last of the ten, while Mr. Beecroft claimed the nearest of the four, and 100 dollars being stated as the price, was gladly accepted. In all my life I never saw such coolness so near death: the most attentive ear could not have caught the breath of a sigh—it did not look reality, yet it soon proved fearfully so.

Retiring to our seats, the King insisted on our viewing the place of sacrifice. Immediately under the Royal canopy were six or eight executioners, armed with large knives, grinning horribly; the mob now armed with clubs and branches, yelled furiously, calling upon the King to "feed them—they were hungry."

Scarcely had we reached our seats, when a demoniac yelling caused us to look back. The King was showing the immolations to his people, and now they were raised high over the heads of their carriers, while the Monarch made a speech to the soldiers, telling them that these were of the prisoners from Attahpam; he called their names. The Charchar left at the same time with ourselves; but Ignacio and Antonio da Souza remained spectators.

The unfortunate being nearest the King, stripped of his clothes, was now placed on end on the parapet, the King giving the upper part of the boat an impetus, a descent of twelve feet stunned the victim, and before animation could return, the head was off; the body, beaten by the mob, was dragged by the heels to a pit at a little distance, and there left a prey to wolves and vultures.

After the third the King retired; not so the slave-merchants. When all was over, at 3 P.M., we were permitted to retire. At the foot of the ladder in the boats and baskets lay the bleeding heads. It is my duty to describe; I leave exposition to the reader.

The expenses in money, &c., expended this day was 2,700 dollars; out of the 3000 heads on the platform, 1000 remained when all was over.

June 1.—At noon we sallied forth to witness a novel sight; a review, half males, half Amazons. The Custom is called "Eh dah sol ek begh" (Firing Guns). The parade-ground in the Ahjahhee market-place was now clear, the Ahtoh had disappeared, and all that remained to mark the fearful tragedy of yesterday were the stains of blood, emitting a pestilential stench.

Having taken our seats under some shady trees, the troops marched past in the following order. First came the Cabooceers and their retainers, some 300; lastly, the King's levees, and those of the Royal Family, in all 4,400 men; then came the Amazons in the same order, 2,400. In each regiment or company, first came the armed, then the banners, stool of office, followed by the officers under umbrellas; lastly, the band. In the rear of each of the King's levees, male and female, was an equal number of stools, banners, drums, and umbrellas, all ornamented with skulls and jawbones.

At 12-30 His Majesty arrived, and took his seat on a high stool under a canopy of umbrellas. On his left the Charchar; on his right Mr. Bee-croft and myself. Under the canopy were none but males. Toonoonoo remained outside, and Maehaepah hovered in the neighbourhood, ready to communicate, if required.

The King must be aware of the consequences of too often raising the evil passions of men, and too long indulging his people with murder. As if by the power of Aladdin's lamp, to-day they were a changed nation, totally military; the King was a soldier, in French grey tunic, short trousers, and fur skull-cap; no sandals, and no ornaments except a neat cartouche-box and other military apparel. The hunchback and dwarf vied with the court-fool in military address; in all this there was nothing very extraordinary; but when, in the midst of the Amazons stood the royal mother, wives, female Ministers, all in uniform, and armed each with a musket, sword, and club, and which each by her actions showed she knew well how to use, the Monarch looked to us, as if to say, "Did you ever witness the like of this?" All were well, and many handsomely, uniformly, dressed.

The whole marched past a second and a third time. 77 banners and 160 huge umbrellas flirted by the bearers, muskets ornamented with ribbons, flying aloft to be caught again, together enlivening the scene; while 55 discordant bands, and the shouts of soldiery as they hailed the Monarch, almost deafened the observer.

The retainers of the Ministers and Cabooceers now occupied the ground at the farther end of the field, when first the royal male levees (headed by an emblem of a leopard killing a snake, on a staff) advanced, skirmishing to the foot of the throne, keeping up a constant fire. In front was a regiment of blunderbuss-men, bush-rangers in green grass surtouts. Halting in front, they gave the salute, holding up their muskets with their right hands, their left rattling a small metal rattle each soldier wears round the neck; while some, having light pieces, flung them aloft to catch them again; all the officers prostrating, and throwing dirt on their heads.

The King rose and left the canopy, said one or two words to them, and receiving a light musket from an aide-de-camp, fired it, and received one of many now offered. He then danced a war-dance. It commenced with a quick-step march; presently he halted, and putting his hand over his eyes, scanned the distance, sent out scouts; danced again, again halted; now certain the enemy was in sight, fired his piece. The soldiers shouted, fired, advanced, and retired, and the King returned to his seat, shaking hands with us, telling us he had been to war.

Domingo José Martins arrived (sixteen hours from Whydah). The soldiers sang, and in their song thanked Martins for some powder and muskets he had given last war. As these marched off, the Amazons advanced in the same order, keeping up a constant fire from muskets, blunderbusses, musketoons, and wall-pieces; forming a half-circle in front

Bringing his piece
to the shoulder.

He had hammock-
men all along the
road.

of the canopy, they saluted the King, who, after a parley between those two grave reasoners, the Maehaepah and Toonoonoo, again quitted the stool and performed a war-dance. The Amazons now sang, and introduced Domingo, for the same reason, in the following verse, which they repeated several times:—

Tune—"Jim along José."

Dae mee goo o
Sooto ah noo o
Ah dae mee Guezo.

(Domingo gave us muskets to fight for Guezo.)

After much dancing and singing, they marched off and took ground to the left, forming a canopy of umbrellas in their centre for the officers, all seated on their hams, their Danish muskets on end, became speculators of the remaining part of the review.

The remainder was a sort of presentation of chiefs and officers of the King, while the retainers marched past, firing constantly. The order was as follows: first, the retainers enfilading between two Fetish-houses, about 200 yards from the throne, would commence firing, and march, edging to the right; the Cabooceers and officers would leave the body, and arrived at the foot of throne prostrate, and threw dirt on their heads, while the Toonoonoo called their names and rank. The Cabooceer then knelt, and receiving a bottle of rum, followed his retainers. All the Cabooceers having passed, among them Ignacio da Souza (who stood), to whom the King went out; and he having declined to dance, His Majesty shamed him into doing so by setting him the example. The Ministers went through the same ceremony. The only other time the King left the tent was to throw some rum on a black pudding of human blood carried by Fetish-men. At 6-30 the review ended, and we were permitted to retire, much pleased with the day's amusement,

During the whole proceedings, order and discipline were observable; the uniformity of dress exceedingly striking. The show of colours, variety of the flat-topped umbrellas, various devices and emblems like the eagles of the Romans, the highly-polished muskets—all combined, the effect was as pleasing as it was novel.

I am now accustomed to skulls, but a sense of disgust arose when the King sent the Meigau's drinking (war) cup for our inspection—it was a polished human skull. The Meigau, the highest officer in the realm, holds, among other offices, that of hereditary headsman—under a Dahomian Monarch, no sinecure, although he has a band of subordinates.

The 6,800 soldiers reviewed, with perhaps an equal number on the frontiers, form the standing army of Dahomey; certainly not more than 14,000 male and female, and nearly all foreigners, bought or prisoners of war. When the King makes war, he levies, according to its capabilities, from each town and district; but, I should say, never marched more than 20,000 to war, leaving about 8000 armed men under the Mayo to protect his capital and frontiers.

To leave the frontiers open, said the King, would be to invite an attack.

I do not think His Majesty gave us credit for being able to count his troops, but we had done so before he arrived on the ground; and luckily we had, for afterwards several of the largest regiments would march past twice, and one of them three times, thus swelling out the apparent numbers.

During the day he appeared anxious we should have every information, and frequently sent the names of the chiefs as they passed.

June 2.—Sunday, and luckily a quiet day. The Mayo called, conversed on trade; but I am not of opinion we made much impression on the Minister, who, besides being himself a slave-dealer, is too old. He did pretty well by his visit, in obtaining two gold rings and a new silk handkerchief as present. His call was to ask us to obtain for His Majesty some silk of a certain pattern the King had had twenty years.

June 3.—Again the Custom called "Ek bah tong ek beg," and preceded as before by six human sacrifices, which lay in two heaps under the steps of the Palaver-House, as we passed into the court of the Palace of Dangelahcordeh at 7-30 A.M.

The day was fine, and dresses beautiful in appearance; the tent and positions the same. The opening scene—the procession of Ministers and Cabooceers—was as splendid as it could have been; all wore crimson and yellow slashed silk robes, and over these the Ministers wore crimson silk-velvet cloaks trimmed with gold. Bands of singers, males and females, dressed in scarlet tunics and many silver ornaments, were grouped in different parts. The procession was mainly the same; the dresses of the carriers finer or rather more gaudy. Several carriages and wheeled chairs were drawn past, and cloth, velvet, silk, coral, &c., took the place of cowries. As the procession passed, ladies (attended by guards of Amazons) magnificently dressed in the most showy silks, satins, and velvets, with hats and plumes of the time of Charles II, would take position opposite the throne, and sing and dance before the King, who was habited in a black slouched hat almost covered with gold embroidery, a blue and white robe, and sandals. His Majesty seldom left the tent. A great part of the Amazons were in scarlet or crimson tunics.

The aged ladies, dressed out in scarlet, crimson, or light blue, as they passed in procession, attended by a paraphernalia of skull ornaments, as banners, drums, &c., had their trains borne by maidens in gaudy attire, and were each followed by a guard of Amazons.

Among the groups the most showy were the Paussee six ladies; one wore a Charles II hat and milk-white plume; the other five wore gilt helmets with red and green plumes, tunics of scarlet and gold, with bands of green satin, and waist-belts of blue and green silk; coral bead necklaces, silver gauntlets and armalets, attended by 200 Amazons under arms in scarlet tunics; also a group of six ex-ladies of the Royal Chamber, all mothers of the King, and his present favourite wife, in tunics of country cloth, and similarly ornamented as above, except that each wore at her girdle a polished human skull-cup, and each wore a white slouched hat trimmed with gold-lace. The scene was much more brilliant than on the last day.

May 30.

Let it be remembered that these Customs occur only once a-year, and have been annually for 100 years; and that many of the dresses (which are worn on no other occasion) are much older. I had almost forgotten to mention that these dresses did not save the eternal prostration.

One article deserves attention: the programme must be referred to for the rest. A model of a hill in Kangaroo, taken by storm by the Dahomians; by command it was placed near our position, and those two important functionaries, the Maehaepah and the Toonoonoo, knelt with their heads locked for about half-an-hour, when the mystery was explained to us. The late Mr. Duncan, in his travels to the mountains of Kong, being in the vicinity, asked permission to ascend the hill, which was refused; this, as Mr. Duncan was travelling under Dahomian protection, was construed into an insult. Kangaroo Hill was surmounted by a large town, supplied for a siege and with large tanks of water; the rear was a perpendicular, the front was a slope, round which was a high wall and gate. This wall was escalated by Yawae (the English mother), at the head of a party of Amazons, and her stick of office was placed in honour on the model, where it looked very much out of proportion. Several musketoons, wall-pieces, and a five-barrelled blunderbuss, all English, were shown to us; and His Majesty sent to say, as these were getting old, he would be obliged if the Queen, his friend, would send him more, particularizing that flints were preferred. We made a note of it.

Before going away, His Majesty invited us into his tent, to the too well expressed astonishment of 200 ladies, who must have thought the King had parted with his senses when he admitted men and strangers into their sanctuaries. His Majesty proved himself to be sane, by telling us that to-morrow he wished us to measure the tent, and put down in our note-books that he wanted two, and two sofas.

Inside, the tent was supported like an umbrella, and apparently very old; in the centre was the sofa, and over it a white umbrella; on the sofa were child's toys.

At 5:30 we left, having sat too long over damp ground. At 7 we were again commanded to attend the King to an evening Custom, "El doo

beh pah meh," "Go to pah meh" (To Eat). His Majesty went in procession, attended by all the Ministers, wives, Cabooceers, and both armies.

Arrived at the market, some edibles were brought to us; but as it was very dark, we did not eat of them. The King was said to be throwing away eatables to the people; we did not see or hear it. His Majesty sent us four heads of cowries each, and permitting us to depart, we reached home at 10.

June 4.—Measured the tent and sofa. In the yard lay 800 heads of cowries, said to be to pay parties employed yesterday, but I much doubt that more than 200 were paid away, we witnessing that payment, and the rest remaining when we left. In the evening the Mayo brought the three (saved) victims; one ill. Gave him some medicine, and clothed the whole.

June 5.—One of the King's brothers called, and seeing we were employed, said, "I am a working man, and when employed do not like visitors; I therefore take leave."

June 6.—Most of the town was closed to-day, as the ladies of the royal harem went forth to bathe. Mr. Brown arrived.

June 7.—At 9:30 we entered the Palace of Dangelahcordeh to witness the first day of the Customs called "Se que ah nee" (Throwing Water).

Passing through the first court we entered an interior court-yard by a gate ornamented with two human skulls, in shape a parallelogram; at the further end were three small tents, the centre surmounted by a large silver ornament, each of the other two covering a large glass chandelier. The right was formed by a long low shed-like building, in which were two canopies; under the central one, on a couch of crimson and gold, lay the King, while in front was a crimson damask cloth for the recipients of the royal bounty to kneel upon; under the second were the females of the Royal family; while under the shed and immediately in front, were Amazons under arms, and other ladies of the harem. Again, in front, were the skulls; a space of twenty yards (a neutral ground) was unoccupied. Facing the throne beyond this, was a band of minstrels, and in their rear, Ministers, Cabooceers, military officers and visitors. Scarcely seated when the business of the day commenced.

Dresses by no means good, as nearly all had to prostrate.

A crier stepped to the neutral ground and called by direction of the Maehaepah, the Toonoonoo and Cambodee; the three then seated themselves on the edge of the crimson cloth, and the Meigau was called; he being sick, ten heads of cowries were sent to him. The Mayo being called, went through the following ceremony, which was followed by all, and a reference to the programme will give the names of the recipients and sum received by each. Prostrating at a little distance from the throne, he crawled on to the crimson cloth, and there received in his robe, poured from a basket by the Royal hand, eight heads of cowries (eight dollars), which he carried away, staggering round the yard as if under the enormous weight. After having counted them he returned, again prostrated, and covered himself with dirt.

Eunuch Treasurers.

I have before mentioned a man, Pohvehsoo; it may be necessary here to describe him. His origin is humble; he was a carrier of Whydah; he is now a captain of musketeers, a headsman, and a privileged court fool; he has a coadjutor in the Amazon ranks; they dress meanly generally, and have their faces with whitewash like a skull; take great liberties with the Monarch and the nobles; and for a headsman, or even otherwise, I never saw so benevolent a black countenance: in age he is about sixty. To-day they executed every ingenuity to obtain largesse. At one time Pohvehsoo was rolling about in a bag, imitating the call of the guinea-fowl; the King feeding him with cowries, causing the court fools and sycophants to exclaim, "Was there ever so generous a Monarch? See, he throws away cowries like corn." At another, with a mask of a monkey, he would be dipping his paws into baskets of oranges, corn, &c., and removing their contents. But the main cast was Pohvehsoo and his coadjutor, each made a present to the King. From each end of the yard a party heavily laden arrived (apparently), and it required all the care and attention of each to get his or her party before the King, the weights appeared so excessive, that the carriers had to be wiped down and fed with corn; at last they reached the foot of the throne, and the King made a present of cowries in

return, when on examination, two huge baskets of shavings and two huge stacks of the pith of the bamboo, assimilated a like quantity of corn and firewood.

In the middle of the disbursements, the Charchar, his two brothers, and ourselves were called, and received six heads of cowries each, and drank with His Majesty, amid firing, &c. Altogether he disbursed 600 heads.

Two crown birds and a beautiful gazelle played about the yard. In the intervals the minstrels took advantage and praised the King in a most disgusting manner; when one band had sung their praises they were paid, and another took their places, and either sang or danced, and some both. At 2 we took leave, and going home I asked my interpreter how many heads had been given away, during the day; at first he would not answer, but being pressed, gave it as his opinion, 10,000 dollars. Such is the idea the Dahomians have of the liberality of their Sovereign. Visited the Ahjahhee market, a four-day market, well supplied as far as variety of articles was concerned, but with little of each.

Hungoolah.

June 8.—Visited the Behcon market, a four-day market, also just outside the Cumassee gate, similar to Ahjahhee. Called on the Mayo, who reclined on a mat in the shed before described for the Ministers and others on duty at the Palace.

June 9, Sunday.—The Charchar, his brothers, and Domingo, have been closeted all day with the King. The late Da Souza's debts are said to be the palaver.

June 10.—At five miles north-west of Abomey is a beautiful view, which we visited this morning. Leaving the town, the ground gradually rises until suddenly the road opens on a deep extensive valley of undulating ground. Far as the eye can see are the Dabadab Mountains, looking blue in the distance; our eye having been so constantly accustomed to level views, looked upon this as magnificent, and the keen air blowing clear from such a distance, gave us an excellent appetite for a picnic breakfast. On the upper ground was clay with ironstone, sandstone, conglomerate, and chalk. Descending into this valley, a walk of a mile and a half brought us to a swamp of discoloured water, the only watering-place of Abomey, and from hence the water is carried on the heads of women. In the valley the soil is oozy and fertile; but unfortunately, except here and there, miles apart, there are no habitations.

Passing the Palace of Dangelahcordeh, on our return, His Majesty was taking formal leave of Domingo Jozé Martins, honouring him with a review of two regiments of Amazons. According to etiquette we had to descend from our hammocks and make our bow. Having drank with His Majesty, he asked us if we had brought him any specimens from the bush; we told him our canteen was gone on, but we would bring him some after we had dressed. Taking leave, we returned with five breakers of rum, two large case-bottles of gin, and two of liqueur. Domingo had left, and the King entertained us with some very good dancing, first by men, then by Amazons. The dance offered very great variety of positions, and was very spiritedly performed. The band was not so good as it might have been, and one of the dancers would now and again sound them the tune. At 5 A.M. sent us two bullocks, some flour, peppers, and salt.

In the evening His Majesty passed our gate in procession to the Palace of Dahomey. First came the Cabooceers and all their pomp and array of war; then the Ministers, the King's levees, the King in a hammock (who halted and sent us a bottle of rum), followed by skull ornaments, as instruments, banners, &c.; (a space), then the Amazons, Cabooceers, Ministers, main body, and a similar hammock, skull ornaments, &c.; lastly, the Cambodee and his retainers.

In the evening, Domingo Jozé Martins, the greatest slave-dealer in all Africa, called to take leave. He remained upwards of an hour; and, in conversation, told us that last year, by palm-oil alone, he cleared 70,000 dollars, and shipped in one month from Porto Novo, 300 tons of oil, or 10 tons a-day. In conversing about the Slave Trade, he said the only thing that supported it was its being contraband. In speaking of his individual position, the monopoly of Porto Novo, that one trade helped the other.

June 11.—As an introduction to the day's proceedings (the commencement of the War Palaver), it is necessary to give some account of the present state of the Dahomian army, which is at once divided into two divisions, the right and the left, the advanced and the rear, or the Meigau's and the Mayo's, or the general's titles, the Agaou's and the Passoo's. In each of these two divisions is a battalion of males, and one of Amazons.

The army has another extraordinary division—the male and the Amazon. In each army is a Meigau, a Mayo, an Agaou, a Passoo; and each male officer or soldier has his equivalent in rank in the Amazon lines, termed "Mother." The Meigau's levees are 140, the Mayo's 300, &c.; those of their coadjutors are equally numbered, or nearly so. The Charchar and all visitors have "mothers" also. Our "mother," the Yawae, is a most distinguished soldier.

Their pay is precarious; clothed and fed; armed and supplied with powder; as will be seen, they swear to conquer or die. Prisoners and heads are purchased from the captors, and the reward at the Customs depends on the success in the war.

In or about 1625, Tahcohdohnoh, King of Tahhee, marched upon a small town (now called Abomey), and accomplished a vow to the Fetish by ripping open the belly of the captured Prince, and placing his body under the foundation of a new palace, which he appropriately called "Dahomey," or Dah's belly: hence the name also of the Kingdom of Dahomey.

At 10 A.M. we entered the Palace of Dahomey at a gate called "Ah goh doh meh." The King reclined under a canopy in a low shed-like building: the positions were similar to those described on previous days. In our rear was the mausoleums of Kings—small thatched round houses, each surmounted by a silver ornament of large size; in front of each was a heap of human skulls and bones, and at the door of each a pillar of cloth shaded by an umbrella. On the neutral ground was strewn cooked meats, &c., and hundreds of turkey buzzards flew about with sickening familiarity.

The Custom called "Seh que ah ee" (Watering the Graves) is in honour of Tahcohdohnoh and his successors.

Singing had commenced; and shortly after, from the tenor of the song, a dispute arose which became a war palaver.

Ahpahdoonoomeh, an Amazon general, addressing the singers. She said Attahpam was conquered, the town taken and destroyed. But it was the Amazon who saved the war!

Ahhohpeh, the King's brother, said that her speech was true.

Ahpahdoonoomeh. The Attahpams have sought refuge in Ahjah; let the King make war upon Ahjah.

Ahhohpeh. True, the Amazons saved the war: some of the King's sons gave way. Idiom: Male soldiers.

King. My opinion is, that their Chief knows more about counting cowries than the art of war. If men run away like goats, unless followed, it is not likely they will be caught. Alluding to the few prisoners.

Ahpahdoonoomeh. I cautioned them to be wary.

An Amazon. If the King eats out of a plate, it must be cleaned before it is used again. After use, my musket requires cleaning.

(The party of soldiers charged with neglect advance to the neutral ground, and their remuneration, some pieces of cloth in six bags, is placed before them; they kneel and throw dirt, while a sort of trial takes place, to discover if they are worthy of the royal bounty, in which great liberty of speech is used by all classes, and any one may give his opinion.)

An Amazon. Let the King give us Bah to conquer. Abbeokuta.

Another. Let Ahjah be the seat of war; let the Mayo lay this request before the King, who will cause him to send messengers into Attahpam, calling upon the people to return and fight again, on pain of being attacked in Ahjah. Did they not invite Guezo to war, and then ran away?

Mayo. I have already sent messengers, telling that if the Ahjahs protect the Attahpams, the King will annihilate them.

Alluding to the small booty at Attahpam.

An Amazon, addressing the King. For my part I am in debt for provisions for last war, and must go again to get money, whether you give Bah or Ahjah. If a bone is thrown to a dog he will break it and eat it: so will we either.

A procession of fourteen *demoiselles du pavé*.

Mayo, to the Amazons. Don't beat about bush, but come to the point. Your charge? Explain at once your wishes. If this is to be a war palaver, the Agaou should be present.

(A stormy debate ensues. The Amazons supporting their charge that the males behaved cowardly, and left the brunt of the action to them, saying, to be overloaded is to be made a laughing stock. The men try to cry them down, when they resort to singing "If the King's soldiers go to war, they should conquer or die.")

Male Officer. The Amazons are "sweet-mouthed." If the King commands, the Agaou will see the work done.

Passoo. If the King sends me I shall do my best; there has been too much palaver about nothing.

An Officer. The King made sacrifices to the River Mono. We are ready to return, re-conquer the Attahpams, or die.

Ekboksah, captain. If we are not able to go to Bah, we should say so, and let some other party go.

Truth:

Tookonoovehseh, another officer. Goat's blood is goat's blood. Ahpahdoonoomeh, you had better have held your tongue.

Ekboksah. To interfere in a palaver is not right; I do not make war; the King makes war. The King shows how the Attahpams escaped, and who is in fault. If the King hears for certain where the Attahpams have sought refuge, that place will be destroyed. As for myself, I think more about the matter than I am able to express, therefore finish my palaver. I did not come here to quarrel; where the King sends me there will I fight. Is this a day on which to find fault? If I am not fit for my situation let me be degraded. If my actions are not right, let my accusers look me in the face and make their statements. I will not allow my name to be banded about because a part of the soldiers did not do their duty. I call upon my "mother" to say what she knows.

Ahpahdoonoomeh. I will explain myself and my reasons for requesting the King to give us Bah.

(Interrupted by Bohnohmahseh (male officer), who says, "where the King's sons (male army) are, there the fighting will be. What I speak in the house I will enact in the field. There is a fish in the river called Pah tah seh hed." (This fish has a natural protection.)

[Loud cries, you talk too much.]

An Amazon. What right had you to interrupt? What are your reasons? Does one do wrong, if in seeking a livelihood one gives a part to the King?

Mayo. The King has said, If a man eats too much supper he is heavy-headed in the morning; that man's a fool.

Alluding to Attahpam.

King. If a man be too lazy to labour for his own livelihood, he is of no service to his King. If one leave a country (partly destroyed) he is not likely to return in open day. He will return in the dark.

Males and females.

Hoomahee, drum-maker. If the King's daughters go to war the King's sons will go also. I and my "mother" will go together; where war is, there the drum will be, and I am the drum-maker. The army was six days in Attahpam without seeing anybody, yet there is one who calls himself King there.

(Sings. All join, males and females,

Alluding to the Attahpams having challenged.

"So wae ee jar
jor gee
Ah jor gee sar."

(If a man cries his goods in the market he will meet a sale.)

Baksolsar, one of the singers. When the King gives us Bah I will speak; we can go to war with our clothes on [no preparation]. Ahpahdoonoomeh has raised this palaver.

Meaning the men can take one, the Amazons the other.

Ahpahdoonoomeh. If I am the cause I will have my say; if the King decides against the Attahpams, we can have Bah also.

Hoomahes. Where the women go the men must go also.

Ahpahdoonoomch. Who are you, to speak thus confidently? Are you the Agaou?

Another singer. In the time of peace my eyes are everywhere, in war concentrated into one focus. I wish to speak to the Meigau and Agaou. Why are they not here? It was not yesterday we returned from Attahpam; why bring that palaver in question now?

An Amazon. If men give cause for a palaver, do they think a woman can hold her tongue?

Hoomahes. If Attahpam sent parties to treat, their feet would blister on the road; let the King follow and take all.

Another drummer. The reason we talk about Bah, is, that the Bahs have insulted the King and killed Dahomians. (A general murmur.)

Toonoonoo. Why is this man not allowed to speak?

Ahpahdoonoomch, after a great deal of flattery says, the Amazons are the King's sandals.

King. (Not loud enough to be heard.)

All held up their muskets and saluted the King.

Two of the King's brothers held a palaver on the agricultural state of the country, that but little grain is grown in the neighbourhood of Abomey; formerly they brought from Ahjah, now they cannot. Hungbahgee, one of the King's officers, says formerly goats were plentiful, now there are but few in the market. Fowls are dear. The roads are uncleared.

Singers sing. Tehpehseh and the party of soldiers in disgrace have a parley with Hungbahgee, who says they do not deserve their pay; they appeal to their "mothers" in the Amazon army, who say they deserve it, as their party killed the King of Lefflefoo (another war). One Amazon questions Hungbahgee's right, and another represents the present being given to Tohkohnohvehseh. The King confers the present on Tehpehseh and his party. A long parley ensues, and they take it. Some cowries are now distributed, among them two heads (dollars) to the Royal Family. Much rain.

At 3 we left. Before breaking up, four human beings were sacrificed (decapitated). The cowries distributed did not exceed 30 dollars (heads).

June 12.—A respectable liberated African woman called to say that her husband, also from Sierra Leone, was a prisoner of war. Her story is as follows: Ten years since they came to Whydah. Her husband has been much subject to the hooping-cough, and hearing of a doctor (native) in Attapham, went there. War came, and both he and the doctor were taken prisoners. We promised to intercede. His name is John Mc Carthy.

June 13.—At noon I arrived at the parade-ground. Mr. Beecroft unwell. His Majesty occupied a similar position to that of June 1, and I joined him under his canopy: on his right, under canopies of umbrellas, were the principal ladies and Amazon generals, &c.; scattered over the field were the different regiments of Amazons, one had passed and another was advancing to the foot of the throne. The custom was the Amazons swearing to be faithful next war. In these swearings it is customary to ask for a particular place for attack, and if asked for three times it is generally granted. Bah or Abbeokuta has been asked for twice; first the King went to Kangaroo, then made a feint, and fell upon Okeadon; now they ask confidently. The language was constantly in parables and metaphors, continually a crier hailed the King as "Ah hau soo lae hee Hausso." Oh! King of Kings.

The regiment now before the King was of bushrangers, with three stripes of whitewash round each leg; they first saluted their officers, then the King, when one after another three stepped forward and swore in the name of the regiment to conquer or die.

The first spoke of the Mahee wars; how Dahomey conquered. If we don't, let us die.

2nd. Of the Attahpam war. The Attahpams fled; if we flee, let us die. Whatever the town be we will conquer or bury ourselves in the ruins.

3rd. We are eighty, and of the advanced guard ; never turned our backs. If any one can find fault with us let him do so.

A male officer about to speak is interrupted by a Fetish-man, who says, "You cannot speak ; that woman is Fetish, you are not ; we marched against Attahpam, thinking them men ; we found them worse than women." (Sing, in derision, salute, and march off.)

Parts of two regiments now advanced, one called Ahbohgo (firehorn), the other Ahkoongah dol (turkey buzzard) ; appropriate names, as they are also bushrangers.

One says, I have nothing to say, I will be proved by action.

2nd. By the King's children I swear never to retreat ; if I do, let me die.

3rd. Without war there are no clothes or armlets ; let us conquer or die.

4th. I am a wolf, the enemy of all I meet who are not the King's friends.

5th. Calls the names of all the conquered countries to Yawae, who repeats them to two criers, who cry them. She then says, "Let us catch elephants if we can ; if we cannot, flies ; we cannot come home empty-handed ; if we do we deserve to die."

The colonels now step forward.

1st. Clothes are made by fingers : we are the King's fingers.

2nd. Carriages cannot be drawn without wheels ; we are the wheels both. We have destroyed Attahpam ; let us go to Bah. If we don't conquer let us die.

The King tells them to finish their speeches and reserve themselves for war. They dance, sing, and salute the King, then crawl off on their hands and knees ; at a signal give a yell and then scamper off.

The King's own regiment now advanced and deposited their Fetish in front (about 300). They are joined by about 200 women belonging to the late Charchar, who state they are young soldiers and are come to witness the review. All sing (to the King), "You alone on earth we will serve."

The colonel advances and prostrates, then says, The Attahpams wanted strength to fight against Guezo. Let us go to Bah, and if we do not conquer, our heads are at your disposal. They will run : if into water we can follow ; if into fire or up trees, we can catch them.

Another. There is a town standing that must fall ; it is Bah. (All dance and sing.)

Another. Attahpam is destroyed, let Bah be also. A man entered a room where lay a corpse, he lifted up the clothes and asked why ; he said he wished to be where that man was. We must go there or take Bah.

Another. Talk of Attahpam, it was unworthy of our arms. As grass is cut to clear the roads, so will we destroy the Bahs.

The Standard-bearers. If we lose the flags, let us die.

All salute and retire at the double.

King's daughters' regiments.

One. The King is like a hen : when the rain comes she takes her young under wings ; we are under his protection. If we don't fight, let us die.

The King now rose and drank with me, and gave the Passoo of the male army a tumbler of liqueur.

An Amazon steps out and says, If the Passoo heads us in war, let us die. Send us to Bah, and we will conquer or die (a male officer tells them, "if you don't you will lose your name"). The King has borne us again ; we are his wives, his daughters, his soldiers ; we are men, not women.

Another. I am the King's daughter ; the King gave me the Charchar ; he died. I now belong to Antonio. Let me go to Bah ; if we don't conquer we'll die.

The Colonel. These soldiers have done nothing yet, send us against the strongest ; war cannot suffice us ; wherever they go I will be at their head. Although a snake casts away beads, it never changes its colour ; I cannot change my tongue ; what I say here I will do in war.

Another. Attahpam is no more, let Bah be likewise. (Salute and scamper off.)

Title.

There is a tradition that the Popo bead is cast away by a large snake.

Another regiment, attended by the present Charchar's head wife, ornamented with much gold. They salute me and beg me to convey their thanks to Her Majesty for 2000 caps sent them by Cruickshanks. Wherever they wear them there they will be victorious.

One in the crowd of courtiers made a remark that hit the Toonoonoo, who said sharply, "If you have anything to say, here is the King, say it to him."

An Amazon. The horse has broken its halter, and the robber knows he is loose. Open Bah to us and we will take it. If any one return, and not a conqueror, let that one die.

All 2000 Amazons assemble in front of the throne. "If beans be dried in the fire, cannot one put her fingers in to take out to eat. (All sing.) When we went to Attahpam we found nobody; all ran away; if they reached the water (sea) they will be turned into salt. At Bah let the rear be the advance."

It rained hard, and a mat was sloped over the King and myself; still the Amazons kept their ground, and as they were not likely otherwise to be heard, several danced, while all sang, after which they swear again.

One. We will pass through fire to Bah.

Another. Fetish-men never initiate the poor; there is no use fighting without booty. Attahpam is totally destroyed; let us have Bah.

Souza's women sing. See the Amazons are ready to die in war; now is the time to send them.

Toonoonoo tells them, "When you go, make good use of your arms."

All. They are the King's, and with them we must conquer.

All sing and dance. The generals and ladies leave their stools and join. All salute the King.

A girl six years old came forward and said, "The King opened his mouth three times when he spoke of war, once now will be sufficient; let that once be on Bah."

All call on Souza to act like his father, and get plenty of ships for the King. "When the porcupine sheds a quill, another takes its place." All prostrate, and throw dirt, while criers call the King's names. He receives a new one for the Attahpam war, of "Hausso Ghah Glah," King of Chimpanzes, that drives men from their farms.

An Amazon. As the blacksmith takes an iron bar and fashions it, so have we changed our nature: we are men. We have powder, and the King has promised to tell the Agaou the intended seat of war; we have been waiting long; let us lead at once to Bah. The King gives us cloth, but thread is required to make the garments; we are the thread. Corn put out to dry should be looked to, or the goats will eat. Look to Bah, lest like the Attahpams they remove all their treasure. A cask of rum cannot roll itself. A table in a house becomes useful when anything is placed on it. The Dahomian army without the Amazons are as both.

Another. If one does not spit, the belly is uneasy; if the hand be not outstretched, it receives nothing.

All the officers stand in front; all the Amazons raise their muskets and shout "Soh jae mee" (May thunder kill us if we break our oaths). They hail the King as Koparsalmee (the eagle). As he leaves the canopy, all prostrate, and rise as His Majesty receives an ebony club. He then addresses them, "If a hunter buys a dog and trains him, he takes him unto the forest without telling him his errand; if he sees a beast he sends the dog after it; should the dog return without the game, the hunter kills him and leaves his carcass to the turkey buzzards. If I tell my daughters to put their fingers in the fire, they must obey; if I order you to clear the bush and you do not do it, what will I do to you? Do you think I will not punish you? If you are taken prisoners you know your fate? Your heads become ornaments and your bodies feed the wolves and vultures. Where you are sent there you must fight."

King dances and drinks; then hands round rum in a tin dish. Amazons drink. He returns to the tent, and all march off.

June 14.—The sham fight. At 10 the Ministers and Cabooceers, attended by their retainers, &c., arrived by the left, and had scarcely all reached the ground, when the King, attended by about 600 armed

K

2,600

soldiers appeared on the right, the Amazon army marching by another road in front. The ground was the same before described,—the Ahjahhee market, and His Majesty took up a similar position. On his right were his own male troops; on his left, in front, a court of ladies and Amazon generals, &c.; on the left, Cabooceers and retainers; in front, the Amazons; in the rear, a stockade made of palm-branches; and in the rear of that again, three towns full of slaves. Around the King, besides the Charchar and ourselves, were courtiers, eunuchs, fools and hunchbacks, all *en militaire*.

The King's male soldiers advanced and saluted, flirting umbrellas and banners, and throwing aloft the light ornamented muskets, then retired. Next, all the Ministers and Cabooceers prostrated and threw dirt on their heads. One of the King's brothers produced some tools, which he explained wanted repair.

The King having given the order, Toonoonoo was directed to command the Amazons to advance, who alone took part in the day's performance.

First came an advanced guard in single file, followed by two battalions in open order, their muskets over their shoulders, muzzles in front. As the first passed they planted sentinels, which were relieved by the second, and sent on to report; next came the Fetish gear, the King's stools, horse, and body-guard; last, a reserve and the Commissariat.

Criers crying: "Oh! King of Kings, war is coming, let all come and see it."

A servant of the Mayo's enters the tent with dirty clothes on. Toonoonoo tells the Mayo he ought to know better.

The Amazons marched past a second and a third time, having reversed their muskets. The Yavogau's mother leaves her ranks and says, "I am ready to serve the King. You (to the Yavogau) cannot hear badly of me." Heechechee's mother says the same.

The pioneers now advance with a spy; sit down and hold a palaver; scouts are sent out, who soon return with six prisoners, who are examined before the Council.

His Majesty was joking to his courtiers all the day, who laughed immoderately at the royal wit. On one of these occasions His Majesty coughed. It is not to be supposed that the Kings of Dahomey cough; all hummed and sang and danced to drown the noise.

The prisoners are marched off to the main body; a council of war attend at the foot of the throne; the position of the stockade, &c., is explained, and the King orders the latest levees to attack first. We now change position to the line of the stockade, and the King goes close to superintend the manœuvres. The remainder was very tame, and more like a school of war than a sham fight. As the troops advance, the slaves cry "war is coming." A gun fired at 12, and opening the palm-branches a party entered, and presently returned with slaves and tufts of grass to imitate heads. Again a gun fired, and several regiments entered; the slaves break out from the towns, and a regular slave-hunt ensues; all being caught, they retire. Again a musket is fired, and rushing at the stockade, by force of weight, down it all comes.

At 2-30 the King returned to the canopy, the whole Amazon army formed in front. A man asks leave to kill a snake, which he says has crawled into the tree; he fires, and down falls a large yellow snake, which has been killed for the occasion.

Amazons take a circular position, surrounding the country; the slaves are loosed again, and at the firing of a musket there is another slave-hunt.

A tornado coming on, the King presents us with some food used in war,—dry cakes of beans, palm-oil, salt and pepper, &c., and we take leave*.

June 15.—The "Se que ah ee," to the memory of Agahgah Dasso, great grandfather to Guezo, took place to-day in the Palace of Ahgrimgohmeh, adjoining Dangelahcordeh. The description of the position on June 11 will save a repetition; there were similar mausoleums, &c.

* There was a method said to be for measuring time by threads and two sticks, at twenty paces distant, but I could not make it out, nor could the interpreters explain, nor again did the King refer to it. I therefore think it must have been a blind.

As we made our bow to the King, the singers hail the advantages to trade (all trade), that brought white men to their Customs, for which the Mayo, the Yavogau, Heechelee, and all the traders from Whydah had to prostrate and throw dirt. They then sang in praise, and asked the King to come forward and dance. Maehaepah tells them the King hears. They call for Ahpohdolinohmeh, an Amazon General, and sing the praises of the Amazons.

The Maehaepah, with a sly look, leads forth two coy maidens, each bearing a glass of rum; she then calls Heechelee and Ahkootoo, who very sheepishly prostrate and receive each a glass. Henceforward these are their wives. Two Cabooceers.

A slight divertissement takes place. The Cabooceers advance to receive some cowries for the singers, when one of the royal nephews is found among them. On suspicion that he intended to defraud the King, he is seized, and ordered to immediate execution. Ahhohpeh, the King's brother, takes him in charge, and with assistance is marching him off, struggling and begging for mercy. Pohvehsoo, the headsman-fool, is exercising his wit on the opposite side of the yard, sees his prisoner, and with eyes dilated and horrible countenance, rushes at him. A party attempt a rescue, when the King grants a parley; the headsman resists, until one of the party wrestles with him; the headsman is nearly down, when the King, having forgiven the prisoner, he rushes to his assistance and throws his antagonist. All laugh. Singers sing praises.

The King came forth to dance, Toonoonoo carrying his distaff, surmounted by the skull of Kohcharnee, King of Anagoo. Criers, crying, "Oh! King of Kings!"

Expenses to the singers about 30 dollars. During the day much food given away. Nothing but singing praises; no palaver.

June 16.—At 10 we again entered the Palace of Ahgrimgohmeh. Positions, &c., the same as yesterday. Singers singing in praise, hail the King as "Paugh" (a leopard), the Dahomey Fetish. There was not a well-dressed person in the yard. Singers address the Mayo on some rum having reached Abomey watered, and cautioned him and the Yavogau to be more careful. Both have to prostrate, and throw dirt. In another part they attacked the Ministers for not repairing the Palace walls, in which they are joined by an old soldier, who comments on the absence of the Meigau and Agaou: "If they are sick, why do they not daily report the state of their health? If a house catches fire, one does not run away, but endeavours to put it out, and re-thatch it in case rain comes."

Mayo acknowledges the speech.

Toonoonoo. The King is already aware of the state of the walls, and has told the Mayo how to act.

Ahhohpeh, King's brother. I spoke to the Saugau, and he said he had not time.

Saugau. I have other work in hand; when that is finished I will take the walls to repair.

Mayo. All my men are at the King's command.

Hungbahgee, a military officer. I will undertake to repair them myself.

Mayo, in a rage, defies him; says he talks too much.

Singers sing of Attapham and Bah.

An Amazon chief. Tells them that Guezo alone of all the Kings of the earth, has an army of women; there is no King like him.

A muster of all the Amazons who had taken prisoners last war. They advanced in parties of fifteen. Two officers attend, while one of the generals kneels before the King, repeats the name of the soldier and of the prisoner, adding, "Given to the King to sweep the yard Bologee;" these are 425 in number. Then come thirty-two who have brought heads of enemies, "Lau see dee." During the muster, three women were introduced to us as having received very severe wounds in war: one, named "Seh dong hung boh" (God speaks true), had a fearful scar on her head.

The King left his throne and danced, then came over and drank with us, pointing out that a stick he held belonged to the Chief of Attapham.

Maehaepah makes a long speech to a party of soldiers, and gives

them food for themselves and families; after which several bands advance, play, and are replaced; one called "Hausso Hwae" (the King's birds).

At 5 the King gave us leave to go, after asking if we wished to witness the human sacrifice. I regret to state that Ignacio and Antonio da Souza remained. It is the duty at this day's Custom, of the Mayo and Yavogau to decapitate each one victim; they receive each one head of cowries. The Mayo performed his; the Yavogau paid 15 pence to the public executioner.

June 17.—Again the "Se que ah ee," held in a ruinous court in the Palace of Dangelahcordeh, called Ahdohnoh. Ahdohnoh was the mother of Ahgarjah Woossoo (1730), and her name is now a title in the Royal Family. The positions were similar, except that the King sat in a high-backed chair, and in his rear stood a guard of Amazons; on the neutral ground was a heap of 400 heads of cowries, and besides, lay strewn 430 more. Facing the King was a band of singers, and each recipient of the royal bounty had to dance, kneel, and receive the cowries first on his head, and then the rum, which he carried off. A reference to the programme will show the numbers, &c. After the disbursement, a palaver ensued; during which there were two interruptions: first, a procession of public strumpets; 2nd, two countrymen arrived, each with a boiled man's head, and, prostrating, told their story. A party of horsemen from Abbeokuta had attacked a small town in Anagoo, which they had taken and destroyed; a few stragglers detached and foraged in a country called Tossoo; the two whose heads they now held up, they had shot. His Majesty gave them half a piece of white baft and two heads of cowries each, and a keg of rum for the headman of their town.

Mayo. Go to my house and receive powder, as you have killed these two so well; the King kills all.

A party of Cabooceers and officers prostrated and kissed the ground, and then opened the palaver. The 400 heads, by custom, have for years been carried to the house of Ahlohpeh (who distributed them to parties not attending the Customs), who, it appears, ran away last war.

Ahkahtoo, military chief. Ahlohpeh proved himself a coward in Attahpam, and does not deserve to have the distribution of these cowries.

Mayo concurs; and as Ahlohpeh belongs to my party (the left), they should go to my house.

A Military Officer. If Ahlohpeh is unworthy, it is Tingahlee's right.

Toonoonoo. They shall not go to Ahtingahlee's; the Mayo is the head man.

Bookohmaeoonoo, military chief. Ahtingahlee is one of the Mayo's servants. Why should they be sent to the servant, and not to the master?

Hwaemasae, an Amazon chief. As in former Customs, so let it be now. Ahlohpeh has the hereditary right.

Ahlohpeh. I have heard all the dispute, and still claim my right; it belonged to my father, and descended to me. If I did wrong in war, why was I not accused—I and all my people? It was not yesterday we came from war, nor is this a time to rip up old grievances. I will not yield my right to the Mayo.

The Mayo rushed at him and dealt him several severe blows; then arrested him, and in a moment he was forcibly removed. The whole yard was instantly in an uproar; several armed Amazons ran across; all clamoured, yelled, and shouted, when the King ordered Ahlohpeh to be brought back. The Mayo then impeached Ahlohpeh as a coward, and said that he nearly lost the Attahpam war, and that his head was forfeited.

King. You had no right to strike him.

Mayo. I was irritated at the man's presumption.

King. If you had reason to find fault with him about the war, you should have done so before, and not now.

Ahlohpeh. I was only protecting my hereditary right; the cowries ought not to go to the Mayo.

The Mayo again flies into a passion, and tries to speak, but is cried down.

Ahlohpeh. As I behaved, so did my people; I am not one in the war.

King. Come to some determination, and be less personal.

I do not feel at all certain that this was not a scene to cause us to believe that the Abbeokutians were the aggressors.

Ahlohpeh. The people call me a coward, and will not let me speak out. If they cannot be taken to my house, let them go to Sohgausar's.

Bohkhmaeoonoo. They cannot go to Sohgausar's; he is as much to blame as Ahlohpeh; let them go to Ahtingahlee's.

Ahkootoo, after a long speech, says the Mayo, as head of Ahlohpeh's party, is the proper person. After many opinions, some for the Mayo, others for Ahtingahlee—

King. You will not decide, I will; let them be carried to Karmar-digbee's house, and there distributed. The Mayo did wrong in striking Ahlohpeh. If any one interferes I can punish him. For the future, if a man acts badly in war, let him be charged at once, and not afterwards, to serve other purposes.

Lehpehhoo, King's brother, intercedes for Ahlohpeh.

King. It is no use talking now; Ahlohpeh must reflect on his past conduct and endeavour to do better in future.

Mayo warns Ahlohpeh to beware for the future.

King. We have heard enough of Attahpam; that is finished: the country overrun, the town destroyed, and the King killed. Attahpam is no more.

As will be seen by the palavers, there is great doubt upon the matter.

Bohkhnoovehseh. Ahooesooee behaved ill last war, I charge him.

King. There is, I say, too much palaver about it. I asked the Mayo why he attacked Ahlohpeh; if you wanted to quarrel about the last war, there was a time for it. I have heard all the war palaver.

Several Amazons. Ahooesooee is a brave man.

King. The palaver is that Ahlohpeh had 80 men; Ahooesooee 80 men; the latter charges the former with not coming into action, therefore he could not act.

Ahpahdoonoomeh, Amazon Passoo, charges Haetungsar, the Amazon Agaou, and her party, with cowardice and running away.

King. I am aware of it. (Calls three Amazons.) These without arms took prisoners; thus I can reward them (Gives 10 heads of cowries).

A great deal of self-praise and much recrimination takes place for some time.

Kohkohagee, chief of the Cambodee's levees, makes a long speech in his own praise; hints he is better than his neighbours.

Hungbahgee, chief of the King's levees, challenges him to single combat on the spot.

Kohkohagee. I will take my gun to Bah, and there take more prisoners than you.

From the conversation that ensued, it appeared that this was an old sore.

Ahhohpeh, the King's brother,* tells the King that they hate each other, who dismisses them.

An Agaou addresses the meeting, and recommends less quarrelling and more reasoning, as they are going to war against a people that can fight. (Bah.)

This speech being distasteful, all yell and shout, then sing: "The wolf will be abroad, let the sheep fly." A lengthened palaver ensues, each party praising his coadjutors in the Harem, and *au contraire*, when the King says, "You had better reserve your strength for war, and not exhaust it in palavers. If any one distinguishes himself, I can hear of it and reward it. If any one disgraces himself, let me know at once, that I may punish him."

At 4 we left, the King making us a present of 10 heads and 3 gallons of rum.

June 18.—Again the "Se que ah ee," to-day in the court called Ahlohwaree, after the mother of Tahcohdohnoh (1625), the founder of this Palace of Dahomey. Position similar to yesterday. As we entered a strong and stormy debate on the late war occupied all parties.

Tohkhnoovehsee and **Tohvohveesar**, two officers, say the Agaou is sick†;

* As the names are so nearly alike, I make a note: "Ahlohpeh" is the coward, "Ahhohpeh" the King's brother.

† The belief is that the Agaou is killed. The fashion is, if a high officer is killed, to report him sick, and some time afterwards to say he has died.

The Amazon Mayo was killed; the Amazon Agaou ran away. At meeting the King she was sent back again.

"we can hear for him and explain what passes. Last war the troops were badly generalled; the Agaou must do better next war."

Ahhohpeh, King's brother. With regard to yesterday's palaver, Ahooesooee is not guilty; there is no necessity to try him.

Haetungsar, the Amazon Agaou. What the King said yesterday we heard. We are the King's wives, daughters, and soldiers, and must endeavour to do our duty; but our load ought not to be more than we can carry.

Aheersartong. If the Agaou's people did not do their utmost, the Agaou is not to be blamed.

Saugausar, military chief. If I behaved like a coward, I must die; I could not ask for mercy. Ahlohpeh would have lost his head, had not the King interceded. Although Ahlohpeh was not arrested yesterday, the matter is not settled; it is our duty to find if he is guilty or not. I call upon Ahlohpeh and the five men charged to appear and answer for their conduct. (They come forward, and prostrated, throw dirt. After a stormy debate, in which the prisoners join, far too quickly spoken to be understood, he continues) They are guilty, and should be disgraced; let the King take two as headsman, and give two to each, the Meigau and the Mayo.

Another soldier is brought forward, stripped of his arms and accoutrements, tied. Again a long palaver, in which Saugausar tells the King he buys slaves and makes them soldiers. He must expect good and bad.—

King. Ahlohpeh is not so much responsible as may be supposed; he was headman of eighty; his people left him to forage, against his orders. Ahooesooee swore by the Fetish to conquer or die; Ahsohnee swore also; she saved the war. Let Ahlohpeh and the five be disgraced; let them be taken away and their heads shaved.

Ahhohpeh. Saugausar has spoken well; who but him could have spoken so firmly?

King. The man before me I tried on the field; I cannot try him again. His story is this: he was second of eighty; the chief fell, and this man fighting, was separated from his party. Let him be released.

Ahhohpeh and his party return with their heads shaved, and armed with clubs as headsman. All prostrate, and kiss the dust; throw dust on their heads.

One of the three Amazons who received ten heads of cowries yesterday. I cannot return this basket; I will take it to Bah and fill it with heads of the enemy. If I do not, may I die of small-pox!

Ahhohpeh again comes forward and receives the name of "Garjardqh" (fallen house).

Ahhohpeh, apostrophizing, says, "No sooner is one man fallen than another is ready to take his place."

Ahhohlohpehnokou, next to the Passoo (in the left, or Mayo's army), is now called, and his people swear in a similar manner to that described of the Amazons, to conquer or die, ending by all saluting and singing, "If we don't conquer, may we lose our lives."

June 19.—This day "Se que ah ee" took place in the court named after the King's great-grandmother, of the Palace of Dangelahcordeh. The Tahhee is a title, and the lady enjoying it sat to the right of the throne, in crimson velvet; the only showily-dressed person present; otherwise the positions were the same as yesterday. The day's proceedings commenced with more swearing fidelity on the part of the male troops, and much braggadocio.

Having an attack of ague I had to leave at noon; after which the swearing continued, and the King presented eight boys to the yard; stating that his grandfather was beaten by the Attahpams, now that he had conquered them, he gave these boys to keep his grandfather's yard in order. Several presents of goats, &c., were given to the King.

June 20.—Mr. Brown had an interview with the King. Charchar, Ignacio, and Antonio da Souza, received a present of three bullocks. The captains of Charchar's troops told one of our interpreters to tell us if there were any whites in Abbeokuta, we had better warn them, as the King intended to make war on Abbeokuta.

The similarity of the two names I deem it necessary to explain: "Ahhohpeh" is the King's brother; "Ahlohpeh" the condemned.

June 21.—The “Se que ah ee” was performed in a court called Sehnoomeh, named after the King’s grandmother.

Outside the gate was an oven of earthenware, inside which was a duck alive; on the top in a dish three human skulls covered with palm-oil. The yard and positions much the same as yesterday. The Sehnoomeh (represented) was dressed out in crimson-velvet, attended by the lady enjoying the title of King’s mother, and many other ladies of rank. Among the skulls displayed was one ornamented by a string of coral beads. Besides the band of singers and players, all the Amazon officers and a band knelt before the King, sometimes speaking and singing in praise of the King, his ancestors, and his family.

Toonoonoo. The songs you sing about the King are sweet to hear; sing again.

Amazon Meigau. Sing again and sing well; you know if you do not, it is in the King’s power to decapitate you.

Mayo. The songs you sing are sweet; sing again.

Toonoonoo. The King is wise; hence wisdom is diffused through the nation.

Crier cries. The King is wise; hence so is the nation.

Lehpehhoo, King’s brother. Toonoonoo spoke truth when he said Guezo is wise.

Amazons sing. This house is in charge of Sehnoomeh, and she must take care of it.

Mayo. There are not enough in your band.

Toonoonoo. Mayo says true; it should not be.

Amazon Meigau. The band is the same, but they don’t sing properly; hence the band does not sound well.

An Amazon Officer. If we don’t sing properly, you can correct us.

Ahcordemeah, Amazon, head of the band. The Meigau spoke truth; they don’t sing properly. It is the singers, not the band.

Amazon Officers sing, and call upon Sehnoomeh to dance. Her train borne by a maiden, she dances. They receive five heads of cowries.

Sehnoomeh If the King comes to the house and does not speak, who can know he is there. To-morrow let him go to the house of her that gave him milk.

Ahhohpeh. To-morrow you must sing in favour of her that gave birth to Guezo. If you have any song about the people beyond the Agonee River sing it, for in three days comes the Fetish custom.

Abbeokuta.

Maehaepah gives the Amazon officers and their coadjutors food, over which there is much palaver about what they will do next war. Interrupted by a procession of public strumpets. King tells the soldiers to retire and eat. All sing, “Guezo is the King of Kings; what King so liberal? we are his soldiers; under him we are not men, but lions.” More praise, in which Kohkohagee and Hungbahgee again come to a war of words.

The Saugau receives a glass of rum from a delicate maiden, led by the Maehaepah; as he sips it the Maehaepah tells him he cannot divide it, nor even let one of the Cabooceers taste it.

Sehnoomeh receives seven heads of cowries, and marches off, attended by her paraphernalia of skulls, &c. Band advances and sing in praise of Guezo, who comes out and dances. Drinks, guns fire; Cabooceers dance, &c. Crier cries “Oh! *King of Kings* that can take all other *Kings* and sell them for Rum.” The band is replaced. After singing about the King, the leader calls for Ahlohpeh and the others in disgrace, and asks his name; then sings—

Oh fallen house! “Garjardoh”

That was once considered worthy to carry arms,

Be thou now disgraced to carry a club.

Garjardoh kisses the dust and throws dirt, &c. King comes out again and dances; then drinks with us; after which we retire.

June 22.—At 10-30 entered the Palace of Dangelahcordeh at the King’s mother’s gate, called Ahcontehneh. The position much the same as before. At the gate was a similar oven similarly ornamented. Under two umbrellas, to the left of the King, sat the Ahcontehneh, and one lady handsomely dressed. First passed a number of Amazons, band of

Mr. Brown left. I have no reason to alter my opinion expressed in last journal; indeed it is much strengthened.

music playing, and receiving a few heads of cowries; then the Amazon officers advanced and saluted the King. Sing. Called upon all eyes to behold the glory of Guezo, there are not two but one, one only in the world—Guezo. Every nation has its Customs, but none so brilliant or enlightened as Dahomey. See, all nations send their ambassadors, black and white.

Chorus.—Look round and behold
Ambassadors of all nations.

All officers, male and female, prostrate and throw dirt.

All Amazon officers sing. "Yorubas lied when they said we could not conquer them. When we meet we will make their day as night. Let the rain fall quickly, that the river may be dried soon. Yoruba and Dahomey cannot drink out of the same glass; two rams cannot drink out of the same calabash. The Yorubas must have been drunk when they said they would conquer Dahomey."

An Amazon. In days gone by, the white trader brought good articles; they do not do so now. Then a musket lasted twenty years; it now lasts three.

Deputation of public women.

Toonoonoo. You have sung sweetly; sing more.

All Amazons sing. There's a difference between the King and a poor man. There's a difference between the King and a rich man. Let a man be ever so rich, and Guezo is still King over him. All guns are not cast alike: some are long, some are short. If men are drunk they are not fit to live. There is a nation that must fall: Abbeokuta. Thus we will dance before all. (Dance.)

Criers cry the King's names, and say there is a leaf called Eeaboo*: let the King cause a Fetish to be made with it, and Bah must fall. Everything Guezo does is well done. His power is supreme over the male and female of all kinds.

Mahtohseh, Fetish chief, addressing the Amazon officers. Your songs have been pleasing, you cannot do better than sing again.

All Amazons sing. With these guns in our hands and powder in our cartouche-boxes, what has the King to fear? When we go to war, let the King dance, while we bring him prisoners.

One Amazon officer calls the King's sons and sings to them. Pray to Seh (God) that your father's days may be long in the land. Let all the King's family pray to their ancestors for long life to Guezo. If a leopard kills her prey, does she not feed her young first? If a deer bears young, does she not chop the grass for it?

Bondohhoo, the King's eldest son. All the days of my life I shall pray for longer life for my father.

All officers of both sexes salute the King.

Tohdarsar, King's mother's sister's daughter, to the Amazon officers. If you try to take the honeycomb, you must be wary; go to work carefully, or you will be stung.

The Ahcontehneh and her companion, attended by four other ladies, come forward and dance, each bearing a skull. Tohdarsar receives three heads of cowries, half-piece of cloth, and a bottle of rum, and is told by the Amazon Meigau that the cowries are to buy some food for her mother.

Amazon officers sing. We have sung our lays, now we are going; let Seh (God) bless the King and the people.

The Ahcontehneh marches off with fourteen heads of cowries, attended by her paraphernalia of human skulls and bones, &c.

A Toby Philpot's jug and a dog musical toy being sent for the Ministers and Cabooceers to admire, all prostrate and throw dirt, prior to the inspection. Food is distributed to all present, a band of singers singing in praise of the royal liberality.

A long inaudible conversation takes place between the Maehaepah and the Toonoonoo, relative to the distribution of some liqueur in the bottles of two cruet-stands, and some more equally curious decanters, which ultimately go to the Ministers and Cabooceers. The Maehaepah makes a speech to Lehpehhoo, the King's eldest brother, and presents

* Poison, perhaps.

Alluding to the saying that the Yorubas must have been drunk to say they could conquer the Dahomians.

him with a sample of every kind of liqueur the King has drank during the Customs, in a small box of phials. All the men and women belonging to all the hands that have played during the Customs assemble, and are fed (300). Ignacio and Antonio da Souza receive ten heads of cowries each.

Singers sing: "Oh, wonderful King, to purchase cowries from the white man, and give them back again." Gives 160 heads to the Ministers to make Fetish with, to clean the town after the Custom; gives 60 heads to the soldiers*.

Another palaver commenced, but the yard was too much crowded for us to hear much of its meaning; it was a war palaver. Hungbahgee and Kohkohagee became personal, and the King cautioned them not to promise too much. The Amazons, like turkey buzzards, preyed upon the fallen; in short, there was the usual quantity of squabbling, yet it had to us one glorious lustre, rendering it more valuable than the diamond to the miner. From the conversation, it appeared that this was the last of the "Se que ah ee;" nor do I envy any future visitor that may have again to set out the "Hwae noo ee wha."

The expenses of the above Custom, by my calculation, were as follows:—

Cowries	..	..	..	..	..	5,889
Cloth	..	..	..	..	..	1,551
Rum	..	..	..	..	..	0,766
						<hr/>
						8,205
Food	..	..	..	..	..	1,500
						<hr/>
						9,705 dollars

actually given away under our eye.

The account we gave the King, admitting in some measure his exaggeration, was:—

Cowries	..	..	..	..	..	7,215
Cloth	..	..	..	..	..	2,000
Rum	..	..	..	..	..	1,400
Food	..	..	..	..	..	1,500
						<hr/>
						12,115 dollars.

June 23.—Three hours were spent in the Palace of Dangelahcordeh, while the Amazons arranged 924 heads of cowries and one pipe of rum, in portions, for about 1000 different people from distant towns. As it rained much, we counted them and left.

June 24.—Mayo called and told us that the watering of the graves being finished, the King not wishing to keep us longer, he would soon appoint a day for a palaver.

June 25.—Mayo called, and reported that the King was about to make a Fetish, and that it would be perhaps fourteen days before we could hold a palaver. Visited the Fetish custom. About 100 women in a variegation of cotton clothes, and decked out with strings of cowries, dancing. Present, Lehpehhoony, the King's brother, and three other Cabooceers. Among the dancers was one of the King's daughters. Gave them a keg of rum in return for some gin and liqueur set before us.

June 26.—Mayo, Yavogau, Charchar, and Ignacio da Souza, were closeted all day with the King. Grand Fetish-dance, and sacrifice of a bullock, some goats, &c.

June 27.—Visited the Palace of Bahdahhoony, the heir apparent.

June 28.—Yavogau called in the morning; Mayo in the evening. Conversation on the Slave Trade; both slave-dealers on a large scale. The Charchar, Ignacio, and Antonio, have been closeted all day with the Mayo.

* A word or two more about the Customs will not be out of place. All night a crier paraded the Palace walls, calling "Hausava Haussoo," King, Kings: the names of the conquered nations and the King's names.

The rum distributed was in very small quantities (about half a tumbler to each).

The food was always craved after, and devoured rather than eaten.

There was a rule in all, and except the Ministers, Cabooceers, and merchants, no one received more than 1s. at a time,—4s. in all.

June 29.—Mayo called in His Majesty's name to receive our account of the expenses of the Customs, which we gave as follows:—

Cowries	7,215
Cloth	2,000
Rum	1,400
Food	1,500
	<hr/>
	12,115 dollars.

Having been closeted all day with the Mayo, the Charchar left for Whydah.*

June 30.—Sunday.

July 1.—Mayo called to inform us he was going to the King to ask him to appoint a day for a palaver. In the evening he returned and informed us the King would appoint an early day. We had a long conversation with him about the Treaty.

This morning a chief of the Maha Country, who had not before sworn allegiance to the King, arrived with the sign of subjugation, a wreath of palm-leaves round his neck. Lehphehoony, at the head of the Cabooceers, received him at the gate of the Palace of Agrimgohmeh. Having marched three times round the square, he prostrated and kissed the dust, together with his three attendants. In front of the Cabooceers was a party of soldiers, headed by Pohvehsoo, armed besides their muskets with clubs; having prostrated and thrown dirt three times, the soldiers beat the ground with their clubs to signify they must go through the ceremony again. This they did several times.

July 2.—Mayo and Yavogau called to give us the King's account of his expenditure during these Customs, first explaining that there were seven more to go through: the cleaning of the ship—dancing and singing at the Dangelahcordeh gate—dinner and firing guns along the road to and from Whydah—war palaver at Coomassee—custom to his father at Ahgongroo—the war—Fetish custom, which last up to the time of the next watering the graves. They brought 16 strings, each containing 2000 cowries and 26 odd cowries, or the whole expense for everything, 32,000 heads of cowries, or, deducting one-fourth the difference, 26,000 dollars.

This was an exaggeration, but only proves that His Majesty has some idea of the use of note-books, since the reader may remember that the first day we were told 26,000 heads or 22,000 dollars had been that day and night distributed, which we most positively explained was not the case. Again a long palaver about the Slave Trade. On leaving they told us they were going to the King to explain to him our conversation.

July 3.—Mayo and Yavogau called to tell us the King would see us to-morrow, and brought accounts that the remaining Customs would cost 11,800 heads of cowries, making in all, by his own account—

32,000
11,800
<hr/>
43,000 heads of cowries.
6,257 difference one-seventh.
<hr/>
37,543 dollars.

They added that the King desired them to explain that if one ship comes to Whydah, the King monopolizes one-half the trade; that of three he takes two. Much rain.

July 4.—At noon (it had rained hard all the morning) we arrived at the Palace, and at 1 P.M. were ushered into the audience *entrée* before described. There were present the Mayo, Cambodee, Yavogau, Toonoonoo, and Caoupeh, and their coadjutors in the Harem, and also Maehaepah; all slave-dealers of a large scale. Besides there were Madaki, Narwhey, Magelika, and John Richards, interpreters. Narwhey, one of the greatest slave-merchants, *soi-disant* servant of the English Fort, told Madaki in conversation, that he was working against his own interest in

* Antonio da Souza had been absent some days: he returned to-day. It appears that he went to Whydah to meet a schooner, and arrived on the 22nd, in time to see her taken by the "Gladiator" on the 23rd, in Whydah Roads.

explaining matters to us, saying that the Slave Trade was sweet to him ; however, a true translation was given both ways by John Richards. After the usual compliments, the King asked us to make our statement, which was as follows :—

“ We have seen your Customs and know your amount of expenses. Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, for the welfare of the human race, is anxious to stop the Trade in Slaves, and knowing you cannot relinquish it without an equivalent, has sent us, her Plenipotentiaries (“ Ah Hausso Noo beh,” the Queen’s mouth), to endeavour to arrange a Treaty. In the first place we recommend you to cultivate the soil ; all the palm-oil and cotton you can produce cannot supply the British trade, and the present duties on vessels employed in legal trade being (if you stop the other) insufficient, we recommend you to raise it one-half. If you have enemies and are induced to war, make a treaty of trade with the chiefs of those countries, and instead of destroying, cause them to be tributary and make your prisoners of war the means of enriching your own country by the cultivation of the soil. Beyond these means of making your country rich and your name everlasting, Her Majesty, for the term of five years will yearly send you a present.

“ The Treaty, if entered into, to be subject to ratification, and not to commence until the first instalment was received.”

In answer, His Majesty gave us a history of the foreign trade of Dahomey, from its earliest dates, and the continued good feeling that had always existed between his ancestors and the former Kings of Great Britain ; that throughout the Dahomians had sold slaves. He continued, “ my people are a military people, male and female ; my revenue is the proceeds of the sale of prisoners of war. Did you, after you passed the swamp, except in the neighbourhood of towns, meet any farms ? Other nations deal in slaves, but not like me ; they keep all the proceeds to themselves ; I give mine to my people. I would wish the ports of Little Popo, Ahguay, Great Popo, Porto Novo, and Lagos, to be forced to stop the Slave Trade, before I could treat. In the meantime, let the port of Whydah be thrown open to my Slave Trade ; not to all the merchants there, but to my agents, Charchar, Domingo Jozé Martins, Joaquim Antonio, Ignacio and Antonio da Souza ; let the ships belonging to these five pass free.” We explained to him that what he asked was impossible, and the interpreters wishing it to be put down in a letter to the Queen, we gave them the short negative, which the King understood, and said—

“ Charchar has given me one ship, Domingo and Joaquim also one each, make a letter to the Queen to grant me a flag and protection for these three.” We explained that such was impossible, and again had to be expressive and say, No.

At this moment the King’s countenance was almost blanched, his head down, his right hand rubbed his forehead, while his veins swelled, and in a tremulous voice he added, write to the Queen and ask her to direct her men-of-war to allow “ one ” ship to pass in my name to the Brazils, to carry a cargo of slaves, and bring back goods for me.” Again we answered, No ; the removing of one slave would not be allowed if it could be helped.

“ If I stop the Slave Trade how can the Meigau, the Mayo, &c., each of whom, and the merchants, Narwey, Ahjohbee, Queming, &c., who pay me 5000 dollars annually (considerably exaggerated), duties and presents, afford to pay their Customs. I cannot send my women to cultivate the soil, it would kill them. My people cannot in a short space of time become an agricultural people. War has destroyed all the neighbouring countries, and my people have to go far for food. All my nation—all are soldiers, and the Slave Trade feeds them.”

We now explained to him that if he made his prisoners of war cultivate the soil at home instead of selling them to enrich a foreign land, they would soon be rich ; and read to him a second time the Articles offered. Finding we could make no impression, we asked him to dictate a letter in answer to Her Majesty’s oft-repeated request, telling him that his wishes regarding the flag and free egress from the port of Whydah were impossible to grant. The Mayo explained that if the Slave Trade

was stopped, the King must send to the beach for sand to feed the people on. After some dispute he dictated as follows:—

“*Abomey, July 4, 1850.*”

“From Guezo, King of Dahomey, to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

“Being desirous that the Slave Trade should be stopped in the minor ports prior to my entering into a Treaty, I have to request that you will endeavour to blockade the slave-ports between Quittah and Lagos, and then I will endeavour to enter into an agreement for the stoppage of the Slave Trade in my own country.

“At present my people are a warlike people and unaccustomed to agricultural pursuits; I should not be enabled to keep up my revenue, were I at once to stop the Slave Trade.

“I am always desirous of being at peace with Great Britain.

“I am anxious that some person should be sent as Governor to the Fort at Whydah; and having known him, should wish for Lieutenant Forbes, R.N.

“Some years ago I entrusted two girls and one boy to the care of Mr. Freeman; I am anxious they should be returned.

“I am anxious that missionaries should settle at Whydah.

(Signed) GUEZO ^{his} ~~X~~, King of Dahomey.
mark

“Witness to the royal mark.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT, Consul,
Bights of Benin and Biafra.
F. E. FORBES, Lieutenant, and Commander
H.M.S. ‘Bonetta.’”

This letter having been read to the King, Mr. Beecroft produced a copy of a letter from the Earl of Chichester to Sagbua, Chief of Abbeokuta. We explained to His Majesty it was too evident he was going to war with that people, and that they were friends of the English people, and that English missionaries resided there. The King answered that he intended making war upon Abbeokuta, and Mr. Beecroft had better warn the white men to leave. (I am convinced he intends to attack Abbeokuta after these Customs.)

The Mayo declared that the two Kroomen I had seen last visit had not been found.

The next question was concerning the imprisonment of John McCarthy; the King, evidently annoyed at these questions, ordered the Mayo to inquire about him.

Thus ended the palaver; and I am of opinion that future attempts, unless by force, will fail in causing Guezo to give up the Slave Trade, or his pride admitting him to accept a subsidy. What he recommends to be done to other ports, stopping all trade, if enforced at Whydah, and Lagos be destroyed, the Slave Trade in the Bights will be at an end. The King's selfishness does not save his agents. Little Popo is almost a monopoly of the Charchar's; Great Popo is of Joaquim Antonio; Porto Novo an enormous monopoly of Domingo Jozé Martins.

In everything he said he illustrated simply a desire to enrich himself at the expense of his neighbours.

If his trade be stopped his power is done. At the head of a military nation surrounded by enemies, he must have money, and would then treat for any trade.

In a word, nothing but coercive measures will cause Guezo and his Ministers to give up the Slave Trade.

July 5.—Mayo, Yavogau, and Caoupeh came to deliver His Majesty's present, which was as follows:—For Her Majesty's, two pieces of cloth; Mr. Beecroft and myself, each one girl to wash our clothes, one Cabooceer's stool and foot-stool, one piece of cloth, ten heads of cowries, one keg of rum; Madaki, four heads of cowries, one piece of cloth, one bottle of rum; Richards, two heads, one bottle; hammock-men, two heads, one bottle. After the present, they explained that His Majesty had given last war 4000 muskets to his soldiers, 4000 to the Agonee people, and 4000 he had

to give to the new war-men, and that he had equipped these 12,000 soldiers (humbug). Asked when we would start, as he wished to salute Her Majesty and ourselves. The wife of John Mc Carthy being present, the Mayo took her to recognize her husband, promising to produce him.

July 6.—At 7 A. M., the Mayo, Yavogau, called, and at the same time the battery fired a salute of twenty-one guns in honour of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and thirteen each to Mr. Beecroft and myself. Drank the health of their Majesties of England and Dahomey.

The Mayo told us that John Mc Carthy would be sent to Whydah as soon as the King gave orders for his release.

I now asked the Yavogau whether, in case Mr. Beecroft and myself coming to Whydah, he would be ready to produce the said John Mc Carthy; he evaded the question, telling me it was a small palaver, and that the man would be sent.

I then addressed both thus: "I am going to England, and shall acquaint Her Majesty that the King of Dahomey holds a British subject prisoner: you know the consequences to your trade." The shock was electrical; and they begged of me not to be angry. I then threw myself into a passion; dashed a book on the table; and told them I should act as I had told them. They looked much disconcerted.

At 10 started *en route* to Whydah. Arrived at Cana. One of the purchased men was so ill he could not walk, and it occupied me two hours to obtain two men to carry him; and then only because I had declared he should be carried in my hammock if I did not succeed. After leaving Cana at 4 P. M., a messenger overtook me, and desired me to stop, explaining that Narwhey and a King's messenger were on the road and wished to speak to me. In a short time they joined, with Mc Carthy and his wife, and a message from the King, saying that he could not keep a British subject in prison. The wife had been stripped and ironed in the condemned cell.

Narwhey hinted that a present would be acceptable to the King, which was sent from Whydah. (See list.) Arrived at Tooboodoo.

July 7.—Crossed the swamp; twelve hours on the road. Arrived at Whybagou.

July 8.—This morning, outside our door, was a party of soldiers guarding two dead bodies of Cabooceers. All headmen are buried at Abomey. Besides that the generality of them have their ancestral houses there, it is a more sure report to the King. Arrived at Allahdah.

July 9.—Arrived at Whydah, and found Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta" had anchored the day before.

July 10.—Paid all debts of the expedition. (See list.)

July 11.—Embarked in one of Mr. Hutton's canoes, with our hammock-men, all others being directly refused by all parties.

Leaving the Fort, a Fetish snake had during the night killed a cat in the kitchen, and had swallowed all but the two hind legs and tail which remained ungorge; a Fetish woman was sent for to remove it.

(Signed) F. E. FORBES,

Lieutenant, commanding H.M.S. "Bonetta."

No. 14.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1850.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th of August* last, reporting that you had had a conference with Commodore Fanshawe on the subject of the declared intention of the King of Dahomey to make war upon Abbeokuta, and stating that the Commodore had, with your concurrence, addressed a strong remonstrance to the King upon the subject; and I have the satisfaction to inform you that I entirely approve of your conduct on this occasion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

* No. 11.

No. 15.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Eddisbury.

My Lord,

Admiralty, November 2, 1850.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, the copy of a letter from Commodore Fanshawe, dated August 8th last, with copy of its inclosed letter, addressed by that officer to the King of Dahomey, with reference to his declared intention of making the Abbeokuta Country the seat of his next war; and in laying the same before his Lordship, I am to request that you will favour me with any communication which his Lordship may have to make on the subject, in order that it may be transmitted to the Commodore by Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Wasp."

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.*Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary of the Admiralty.*

Sir,

"Centaur," Cabenda, August 8, 1850.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 19th ultimo*, acquainting the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty with the return of Mr. Consul Beecroft and Lieutenant Forbes, of the "Bonetta," from their mission to Abomey, and transmitting Lieutenant Forbes's report, I have to request you will do me the honour to acquaint their Lordships that on conferring with Mr. Beecroft on the subject of the King of Dahomey's declared intention of making the Abbeokuta Country the seat of his next war, I thought it desirable (in which opinion Mr. Beecroft concurred) to address the letter to His Majesty, the copy of which I herewith inclose, and I hope my doing so will be approved of.

This letter was given to Mr. Beecroft to transmit to the agent of Messrs. Hutton's house at Whydah, in order to secure the King's having a proper knowledge of its purport, as well as the mercantile community of that place.

I beg you will also inform their Lordships that I have instructed the senior officer of the Bights Division, in the event of the missionaries at Badagry applying to him for powder and ball for their protection, to furnish it as far as he may be able.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.*Commodore Fanshawe to the King of Dahomey.*

TO the most renowned King of Dahomey, the Commander-in-chief of the Squadron of Her Majesty the Queen of England on the coast of Africa, wishes health, peace, and the blessing of God.

Sire,

"Centaur," Prince's Island, July 23, 1850.

I HAVE learned with extreme regret, from Lieutenant Forbes, the officer of Her Majesty the Queen of England, my Sovereign, whom I sent to your capital of Abomey, that you have refused the proposals made to you by the directions of the Queen, to abandon the Traffic of Slaves in your dominions, and that you proposed making war on Abbeokuta, in the Yoruba Country, for the object of obtaining more slaves for sale.

It becomes my duty, therefore, to apprise you that the people of Yoruba are the friends of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and that

* Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Her Majesty's Government will see with much displeasure any act of violence or oppression committed against them; and also, that there are dwelling at Abbeokuta and in the Yoruba Country, many British-born subjects and liberated Africans, whom they are bound to protect from injury, and that if they receive any from your hands, it will be considered an act of hostility against the Queen and the English people, and will cause the coast of your Majesty's dominions to be immediately invested and blockaded by Her Majesty's ships under my command, and all trade stopped.

I hope your Majesty will come to some wiser conclusion, and that God may so dispose you.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE,
*Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's Squadron
 on the West Coast of Africa.*

No. 16.

Lord Stanley of Alderley to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 26, 1850.

I LAID before Viscount Palmerston your letter of the 2nd instant, inclosing a copy of a despatch of the 8th of August last, from Commodore Fanshawe, reporting the steps which he took on receiving intelligence of the refusal of the King of Dahomey to conclude a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and of the King's intention of making war upon Abbeokuta; and inclosing a copy of a letter which he had accordingly addressed to His Majesty.

I am in reply to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that Lord Palmerston is of opinion that Commodore Fanshawe's conduct on this occasion was judicious and proper, and that the letter which he addressed to the King of Dahomey ought to be approved.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

No. 17.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fraser.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 10, 1850.

I HAVE to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have been pleased to select you to be British Vice-Consul within the territories of the King of Dahomey, on the western coast of Africa, in the place of the late Mr. John Duncan.

I herewith inclose a formal letter of authority under my hand and seal to enable you to act as such.

The objects which Her Majesty's Government have in view in this appointment are fully explained in the annexed instructions, which were given to the late Vice-Consul Duncan, and which were returned to this office after Mr. Duncan's death,

You will consider those instructions* as addressed to yourself, and you will take them as the rule of your conduct during the time you shall act as British Vice-Consul in Dahomey.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) PALMERSTON.

* See Slave Trade Papers, Class B, presented 1850, Nos. 1, 2, and 3..

No. 18.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 11, 1850.

I HAVE to state to you that Her Majesty's Government have appointed Mr. Louis Fraser to be British Vice-Consul at Whydah, within the territories of the King of Dahomey, on the western coast of Africa.

I transmit to you a copy of the instructions which I have given to Vice-Consul Fraser; and I have to direct you to keep up an unreserved communication with him, and to give him such advice and instructions for his guidance as may appear to you to be right and proper for the good of Her Majesty's service.

I have sent a copy of this letter to Vice-Consul Fraser.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 19.

Viscount Palmerston to Vice-Consul Fraser.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 11, 1850.

I INCLOSE to you a letter which I have addressed to the King of Dahomey.

You will take a convenient opportunity to present this letter to that chief, when you will explain to him the nature and object of your appointment.

I inclose a copy of this letter for your information and guidance.

If you should not be able conveniently to present the letter to the King of Dahomey in person within a reasonable time after your arrival at Whydah, you may cause it to be transmitted to him in such a manner as may appear most proper and respectful.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 19.

*Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey.**Foreign Office, December 11, 1850.*

THE Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, my Sovereign, has commanded me to acquaint you that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to direct Mr. Louis Fraser, the bearer of this letter, to be the successor to the late Mr. John Duncan as British Vice-Consul in the territories governed by your Majesty.

The reasons which have induced the Queen to station a British Vice-Consul within your territories were explained to your Majesty by the letter which I sent to you by the late Vice-Consul Duncan, and I beg again to tender to your Majesty the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the kind and hospitable reception which you gave to Mr. Duncan.

Consul Fraser is instructed to explain to your Majesty that it is the fixed determination of the British Government that the African Slave Trade shall cease; that it is useless for any African Sovereign or chief to suppose that he can be able to carry on that Slave Trade in defiance of the determination of Great Britain to put an end to it; and that the best way of securing the goodwill and friendship of England is promptly and completely to put the Slave Trade down.

Mr. Fraser is also instructed to explain to your Majesty on all suitable occasions, the great advantages which you will derive from the increase of legitimate commerce; and he is also to assure you of the

earnest desire of the Queen's Government to contribute in every way to your welfare and prosperity.

Her Majesty's Government trust that you will receive the British Vice-Consul with the respect due to his character and rank, and that you will put entire faith in what he shall state to you in the name of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 20.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 4, 1851.)

(Extract.) *Clarence, Fernando Po, September 21, 1850.*

I HAVE the honour to communicate that Her Majesty's steamer "Jackal" arrived here on the 19th instant. She has captured two slavers: one from Lagos, with 270 slaves, and a number of passengers, having been landed there from captured vessels.

No. 21.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord, *Admiralty, January 3, 1851.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copy of a letter from Commodore Fanshawe, dated the 28th of October last, and of its inclosure, relative to the position of the missionaries at Badagry and Abbeokuta.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

"Centaur," at Sea, Lat. 4° 58' N., Long. 4° 2' E.
October 28, 1850.

Sir,

MY letter to you of the 15th instant will have informed the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that having communicated with Mr. Beecroft, Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, I was about to proceed to Badagry, for the purpose of ascertaining from the missionaries at that place, what would be the position and wants both of themselves and their establishment at Abbeokuta, in case the King of Dahomey should execute his threat of making the Yoruba Country the scene of his next war and slave-hunt.

I have now the honour to request you will inform their Lordships that I anchored off Badagry on the 21st, and sent Lieutenant Boys, of this ship, on shore, with a letter to Mr. Gollmer, in charge of the church mission; and also to examine what assistance it might be practicable for the cruisers to render, if required, and that I have the satisfaction of learning by Mr. Gollmer's reply to me, a copy of which I beg to inclose for their Lordships' information, as well as from Lieutenant Boys' report, that the present position of their Christian establishments was one of comparative security, which was likely to be confirmed by my arrival in the roads and communication with them, and Lieutenant Boys visiting the chiefs; and that I have given to Captain Adams, of the "Gladiator," the senior officer of the division, instructions to meet the wishes of the missionaries as far as practicable, until the period for the Dahomian war is past.

M

I ascertained from Captain Adams, that my letter to the King of Dahomey, on the subject of his war on Abbeokuta, a copy of which I have already forwarded for their Lordships' information, was landed at Whydah last month for transmission through the means of Mr. Hastie, the agent of Messrs. Hutton; but as that gentleman has been since unfortunately drowned, I have not been able to learn whether it reached His Majesty. No canoes are now permitted to come off to our men-of-war at Whydah.

I have availed myself of this visit to the Bights to communicate with all the cruisers of the division, and I am happy to inform their Lordships that I have found them all healthy, for I hope the "Gladiator" need not longer be considered an exception. I have also anchored off Quittah and Whydah, and am now returning to Prince's Island and the South Coast, to meet the "Niger" and the September mail.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Messrs. Gollmer and Van Cooten to Commodore Fanshawe.

Sir,

Church Mission House, Badagry, October 22, 1850.

WE beg to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of yesterday's date, and to express that we all, myself and brother missionaries, British merchants and liberated Africans, here, are greatly indebted to you for the very lively interest you take in our behalf, and the essential service you have rendered to us by the kind measures you have adopted, in sending ships of war to inquire as to our safety, and your own timely appearance.

The position of our own friends at Abbeokuta, the Rev. H. Townsend and Mrs. Townsend, the Rev. J. Smith and Mrs. Smith, the Rev. D. Hinderer, with our native missionary, the Rev. S. Crowther, and the large band of native Christians, is comparatively a safe one, as they can rely on the protection of almost all the powerful chiefs and people at that place. Mr. Townsend, however, to whom I will forward your esteemed letter, will no doubt avail himself of your kind request to inform you as to their real position.

As regards ourselves at Badagry, where the majority of the chiefs and people are greatly influenced and stimulated by the slave-traders, we can scarcely tell what is our true position, and what to-morrow will bring forth: some are friendly, and many would expel us, if we were not protected by the ships of war; but we do believe (or hope) that the frequently appearing of ships of war in our roads, and an occasional visit from Her Majesty's officers, will deter them from doing us any harm.

It is astonishing the effect created in our town by the appearing of a ship of war, by the visit of an officer, or even by the firing of a few guns.

In accordance with your kind offer to render us any assistance we may deem desirable as regards our safety, we would request the favour, if convenient, to instruct ships of war frequently to call in here, so that in case of danger we may receive their protection; that we may be visited by Her Majesty's officers; and that a few guns may be fired, as if exercising; and may we request that you will now favour us by discharging a few guns, which we trust will have the anticipated effect upon those who are still inimical to us.

This is the only assistance we, for the present, deem necessary, and therefore beg to decline your offer to supply us with arms and ammunition.

As regards the Dahomian invasion, we know so much, that Dahomey has an old grudge against the town especially, and would unquestionably destroy it if British residents were removed. We therefore do not know whether we shall be molested from that quarter or not.

The marauding expeditions of Dahomey generally take place during the months of December and January, and we would request the favour that our position may be remembered by you during that time.

In conclusion we beg to return our sincere thanks for your great kindness to us and to our work, in helping us to maintain our position, and thus furthering the holy cause in which we are engaged; it is truly encouraging to us to be thus supported. May the blessing of God rest upon you and your endeavours to ameliorate our poor benighted sable brethren.

We have, &c.
(Signed) C. A. GOLLMER.
E. C. VAN COOTEN.

P.S.—The Wesleyan ministry has gone to Cape Coast for a short time.

No. 22.

Lord Stanley of Alderley to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 10, 1851.

I LAID before Viscount Palmerston your letter of the 3rd ultimo, and the inclosed despatch of the 28th of October, from Commodore Fanshawe; and with reference to the doubt therein expressed by the Commodore, whether the letter which he addressed to the King of Dahomey on the 23rd of July, 1850, on the subject of the alleged intention of the King to make war upon Abbeokuta, had been forwarded to His Majesty, I am to request you to state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that Lord Palmerston is of opinion that it would be important to ascertain whether the letter in question was sent on to the King or not; and if it was not sent, it would be right that a copy or duplicate thereof should be forwarded to him.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

No. 23.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1851.

ON the 22nd of April* last I suggested to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the next step which it seemed desirable to take, with a view to clear the African coast north of the Equator from Slave Trade, would be to induce the Chief of Lagos to conclude a treaty for the abolition of that Traffic.

I have not yet heard whether any communication has been made to the Chief of Lagos, in pursuance of my recommendation above alluded to. But if, when this despatch reaches you, the Chief of Lagos should not have bound himself by treaty to abolish Slave Trade, you will put yourself in communication with that chief, with a view to induce him to conclude a treaty in the form which I herewith transmit to you, and you will concert with Commodore Fanshawe the best arrangements for the execution of this service.

The Commodore will be instructed to furnish you with the means of carrying on this negotiation without placing yourself hazardously in the power of that chief. I have also to authorize and instruct you to conclude treaties according to the inclosed form, with any native chiefs within the limits of your Consular district, whose co-operation for the suppression of Slave Trade you may consider it desirable to obtain.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

* See No. 6.

Inclosure in No. 23.

Engagement to be proposed to the Chief of Lagos.

JOHN BEECROFT, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bights of Benin and Biafra, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and the Chiefs of Lagos and of the neighbourhood, on the part of themselves and of their country, have agreed upon the following Articles and Conditions:

ARTICLE I.

The export of Slaves to foreign countries is for ever abolished in the territories of the Chiefs of Lagos; and the Chiefs of Lagos engage to make and to proclaim a law prohibiting any of their subjects or any person within their jurisdiction, from selling or assisting in the sale of any slave for transportation to a foreign country; and the Chiefs of Lagos promise to inflict a severe punishment on any person who shall break the law.

ARTICLE II.

No European or other person whatever shall be permitted to reside within the territory of the Chiefs of Lagos for the purpose of carrying on in any way the Traffic in Slaves; and no houses, or stores, or buildings of any kind whatever, shall be erected for the purpose of Slave Trade within the territory of the Chiefs of Lagos; and if any such houses, stores, or buildings shall at any future time be erected, and the Chiefs of Lagos shall fail to destroy them, they may be destroyed by any British officers employed for the suppression of Slave Trade.

ARTICLE III.

If at any time it shall appear that Slave Trade has been carried on through or from the territory of the Chiefs of Lagos, the Slave Trade may be put down by Great Britain by force upon that territory, and British officers may seize the boats of Lagos found anywhere carrying on the Slave Trade; and the Chiefs of Lagos will be subject to a severe act of displeasure on the part of the Queen of England.

ARTICLE IV.

The slaves now held for exportation shall be delivered up to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the purpose of being carried to a British colony and there liberated: and all the implements of Slave Trade, and the barracoons or buildings exclusively used in the Slave Trade, shall be forthwith destroyed.

ARTICLE V.

Europeans or other persons now engaged in the Slave Trade are to be expelled the country; the houses, stores, or buildings hitherto employed as slave-factories, if not converted to lawful purposes within three months of the conclusion of this Engagement, are to be destroyed.

ARTICLE VI.

The subjects of the Queen of England may always trade freely with the people of Lagos, in every article they may wish to buy and sell in all the places and ports and rivers within the territories of the Chiefs of

Lagos and throughout the whole of their dominions; and the Chiefs of Lagos pledge themselves to show no favour and to give no privilege to the ships and traders of other countries which they do not or will not show to those of England.

ARTICLE VII.

Power is hereby expressly reserved to the President of the French Republic to become a party to this Treaty, if he should think fit, agreeably to the provisions of Article V of the Convention between Her Majesty and the late King of the French, signed at London on the 29th of May, 1845.

No. 24.

Lord Stanley of Alderley to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1851.

WITH reference to my letter of the 22nd of April last, in which I conveyed to you the opinion of Viscount Palmerston that endeavours should be made to conclude a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade with the Chief of Lagos, I am directed by his Lordship to transmit to you the accompanying copy of an instruction which he has addressed to Consul Beecroft upon this subject.

I am to request that you will lay this paper before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and that you will move their Lordships to cause instructions to be issued to the Commodore in command of Her Majesty's squadron on the west coast of Africa to assist Mr. Beecroft in the performance of this service.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

No. 25.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1851.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 20th* instant, in which I authorized you to conclude a Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade with the Chief of Lagos, I have now further to instruct you to represent to that Chief that the British Government is resolved to put an end to the African Slave Trade, and has the means and power to do so. That it is employing those means with increasing success on both sides of the Atlantic. That the British Government has been successfully urging the Governments of Spain and of the Brazils to prevent the importation of slaves into Cuba and into Brazil, and that thus the demand for slaves will be greatly diminished, if not entirely put an end to; while, on the other hand, the British Government has made treaties with the greater part of the native chiefs on the west coast of Africa, by which those chiefs have engaged to put an end to the exportation of slaves from within the limits of their territorial authority, and to encourage lawful commerce instead of Slave Trade.

You will represent that lawful commerce is more advantageous to the nations of Africa than Slave Trade, and that, therefore, the British Government in putting down Slave Trade, and in encouraging lawful commerce, is conferring a benefit upon the people and chiefs of Africa. That Great Britain is a strong Power both by sea and by land; that her friendship is worth having; and that her displeasure it is well to avoid. That the friendship of Great Britain is to be obtained by the Chiefs of Africa only on the condition that they abandon Slave Trade and expel

* No. 23.

the slave-traders, and that those chiefs who may refuse to do these things will surely incur the displeasure of the British Government.

If the Chief should show a disposition to refuse compliance, you should beg him to remember that Lagos is near to the sea, and that on the sea are the ships and the cannon of England; and also to bear in mind that he does not hold his authority without a competitor, and that the chiefs of the African tribes do not always retain their authority to the end of their lives.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 26.

Lord Stanley of Alderley to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1851.

WITH reference to my letter of the 20th instant*, on the subject of the proposed conclusion of a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade with the Chief of Lagos, I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a further instruction† which his Lordship has addressed to Her Majesty's Consul in the Bights, furnishing him with arguments to be urged upon the Chief, in order to obtain his acquiescence in the proposed measure.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

No. 27.

Lord Stanley of Alderley to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1851.

WITH reference to your letter of the 21st of October‡, 1850, transmitting copies of a letter and journal from Lieutenant Forbes, of Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta" (now Commander Forbes), detailing the particulars of the mission to Abomey, with which, conjointly with Mr. Beecroft, he has been entrusted, with a view to induce the King of Dahomey to enter into a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade; I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to request that you inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve of the manner in which Commander Forbes performed his duties on that occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

No. 28.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 15, 1851.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, December 5, 1850.

I HAVE the honour to communicate for your Lordship's information, that Her Majesty's steamer "Archer," Commander Strange, arrived here yesterday from the Bight of Benin, for coal, and brought me letters from Badagry and Abbeokuta, dated September the 28th, in reply to my letters dated the 1st of August, shortly after my arrival from Abomey. They express themselves very anxious to see me; also state that the chiefs and people are not under any fearful apprehensions relative to the King of Dahomey's proceedings.

My Lord, you will be glad to learn that they are determined to resist them to the last; they are building up their wall stronger, and making every preparation, by gathering together as much ammunition and guns as possible.

* No. 24.

† No. 25.

‡ No. 13.

I learn that the "Centaur" captured a slaver soon after leaving Fernando Po, the 17th of October, with 239 slaves, and the "Jackal," one with 267, both from the vicinity of Lagos."

It is easy to discern that Lagos is the focus of the Slave Trade in the Bight of Benin, and from Corisco to the southward, in the vicinity of the Rivers Camma and Sette.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

No. 29.

The Rev. C. A. Gollmer to the Rev. H. Venn.—(Communicated to Viscount Palmerston by Mr. Venn, March 27.)

My dear Sir,

Badagry, January 3, 1851.

THE "Thomas Snooks" will leave this to-morrow, and thus an opportunity presents itself to inform you that Captain Beecroft, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, has at last arrived here yesterday afternoon. We were led to expect him on the 10th of December, but other engagements prevented his coming earlier.

Mr. Van Cooten and myself, with our school-children, went down to the beach to receive him and to show him our respects. The Sierra Leone people also, with many others, came down with their muskets, and fired a salute; and when we reached home, the Consul was greeted with a grand burst of musketry, &c. Mr. Hutton, who arrived here a few days ago, with his agents here, and Mr. Martin, the Wesleyan native agent, came to meet him at our landing-place. Tuesday next is fixed upon to start for Abbeokuta; and I this morning sent two special messengers to apprise our friends of the arrival of the Consul, and the day they may expect him, as they intend to meet him in the way. Mr. Van Cooten will (D. V.) accompany the Consul to Abbeokuta, and return with him here after about a week's stay, the time the Consul will be able to appropriate to his visit there, he having so many engagements elsewhere. After his return we shall have a meeting with the chiefs and people here.

May God grant that great good may result from the Consul's visit! He seems certainly in earnest to do good; and the time is a critical one at present.

We here have been in a state of alarm for some time past: three times the town was threatened with destruction the last few months, and now we cannot tell when the dark, threatening cloud will burst upon us, *i. e.*, the serious dispute between the Popos and the Lagos people; the former wishing to open the road to Lagos, and the latter forbidding it.

At Abbeokuta, according to letters received this morning, persecution is still going on against Ibore; the cause of which, Mr. Townsend says, is the close blockade of Lagos, in consequence of which the Slave Trade is almost done for in that dreadful den of iniquity. The slave-traders can ship no slaves, and therefore refuse to buy any more (of 135, only 7 were sold in last market), which so much enrages the head slave-trading chief at Abbeokuta, that he seeks to annoy, defeat, and drive away, if possible, our friends, by threatening by death even, as he has done the last few days, anyone who dared to go to church. However, four persons, Mr. Crowther tells me, came in spite of this law, and others went to Aki and Ikija church. Three very nice and good men from Mr. Crowther's district came to take refuge here, their relatives and friends persecuting them. May God strengthen the faith of our converts to remain steadfast and faithful! I often long to see something of these unmistakeable signs of God's work here; but oh, what a dreary field, what a barren soil, what a fruitless tree! yet we with our work are God's.

The reason why the documents are not sent by this opportunity, is that a quarterly meeting will in a few days be held (D. V.) at Abbeokuta.

The "African," with the Society's case containing the dollars, &c., has not arrived here as yet, though she has arrived on the coast the last three months.

The Consul expects Akitoye in the morning, when they will talk over matters about Lagos; and the Consul hopes Lord Palmerston will take possession of it, according to the earnest desire of Akitoye, re-establish him, and make a Treaty for the entire abolition of the Slave Trade with him.

Pray remember us. Thank God, we are well.

Yours sincerely, &c.

(Signed) C. A. GOLLMER.

No. 30.

The Rev. Henry Townsend to Captain H. D. Trotter.—(Communicated to Viscount Palmerston by Captain Trotter, April 7, 1851.)

My dear Sir,

Abbeokuta, December 10, 1850.

I AM happy to be able to forward to you another two months' register, although not so regular as I desire, yet I hope it is better than nothing.

I understand that Mr. Gollmer is unable to record observations there (in Badagry), for want of a register thermometer. I was about to send him my spare one, but broke it when endeavouring to reunite the broken column of spirit. You will be disappointed in not being able to compare the climate of the two places.

We have been graciously preserved here hitherto. The reports of the intentions of the King of Dahomey have reached us, but it excites very little alarm among the people. They have destroyed a town reputed to have been under Dahomian influence, and for that reason, in truth I believe, they have all but made a clear sweep of the towns and villages between this and Porto Novo; and I fear they will not stop until some reverse teaches them to be moderate.

The Slave Trade I understand to be pretty much the same as I last stated. It has been a peculiarly unfortunate year for that nefarious Traffic, through the watchfulness of Her Majesty's cruisers. I hope we are on the eve of better times, and that yet we shall completely triumph over the Slave Trade.

Mr. Gollmer has had frequent communication with the cruisers, and they have manifested great concern for our safety since hearing of the King of Dahomey's intentions. The Commodore called off Badagry and wrote to us twice about it; we wrote a long letter in return, bringing him acquainted with the entire state of things here.

The Government here is exceedingly weak; it is just as if all the German principalities and little kingdoms were brought together into one town, each bringing their separate institutions and Governments, and acting but seldom in union; therefore we have the strange sight of an active persecution in one part of the town, while in another there is not even an attempt at such. It has broken out again in Mr. Crowther's district, but it is to be hoped that it will not last long.

It will not appear strange to you that the chief of the persecutors is also chief of the slave-traders; and there is another circumstance that has some connexion, viz., that the last market-day was peculiarly unfortunate, and many slaves brought back unsold. The slave-traders then attempted to take away the merchandize that our converts had purchased in lawful trade, being enraged with the fact that they with slaves could not purchase, while our people without could. They were accused and abused for favouring the English, the spoilers of the Slave Trade. It is said that three months' purchase of slaves are in Lagos unable to be shipped, and some dying for want. My informants told me that the same trader who purchased slaves at 50 dollars the market before, offered only 40 dollars now; but at what price a purchase was effected they could not tell. I feel inclined to think that now is the time to endeavour to introduce a better trade there. We have reason to expect that Captain Beecroft will be at Badagry to-day on his way here; we hope he will be able to do

some good. We have endeavoured to impress upon the chiefs the fact, that it is an honour to receive a messenger from the Queen of England; and that they should endeavour to pay him all respect and attention.

You will be gratified at hearing this. A few days ago I received a letter from Mr. Gollmer, stating that he was commissioned by the chiefs of a small town called *Pokera*, to beg us to beg the chiefs of Abbeokuta for peace. We went accordingly to the Chief here, and he and his fellows declared that if the Pokera people desired peace, they were willing to treat with them for it through the white people, and them only; but if any other party either here or at Badagry was called upon also with us, they would not listen to their prayers, for they had learned that if but a glass of rum were entrusted to the white people, not a drop would be spilt by the way. In cases of this sort the weaker party will have to give presents to the stronger; and the chiefs here know by experience, that if presents come through the medium of any of their own colour, that probably three-fourths will be subtracted ere it reaches them. We may be thankful for this confidence in us; and if Divine Providence gives us opportunities of showing it is not ill-placed, and of usefulness to them, we shall gratefully embrace them.

One of the chiefs a short time since asked me to become his agent to trade with England direct. I refused, it being out of my sphere of action. Some of the young men would gladly go to Sierra Leone to see that wonderful country; I understand that one of my servants is already saving his money to pay his passage there. If any propose this, I shall certainly further them all I can; for mutual intercourse will, I hope, be of great benefit. If they should be much persecuted, I think many will fly for safety to Sierra Leone; several were speaking to me about it, and seemed to wish it very much. If they get there they will soon work their way upwards by labour or trade, they will all work for money. The enterprising spirit thus manifested gives great hopes of future good for the country.

December 31.—I expected to send the letter now sent some time since, but no opportunity presented itself—it has been delayed; yesterday, however, I sent letters to Badagry; but as only one day remains to complete my register, I did not like sending to you without it, so I send now two sheets or a register for the past four months. To-day the harmattan wind blows for the first time this season; I have exposed the hygrometer to it, and although it has only been blowing for an hour or two, it gives a difference of 16° —in dry, 82° ; wet, 66° . Time, 11 A.M. On looking again at $11\frac{1}{2}$ A.M., it is dry, 84° ; wet, 64° . Difference, 20° in the shade, but exposed to the wind.

I have had a long conversation this morning with some of the people exposed to the persecution lately broke out again, with a view of getting from them their view of the cause of it; and they told me distinctly and upon sufficient grounds, that while the idol-worship is the assigned, the real reason is the Slave Trade; and that it all comes from Lagos. Their ultimate object is to get rid of the white man; but as it cannot be accomplished by direct means, they seek to do it by drawing away those who become Christians—supposing, I think, that we receive pay for every convert; and that when the hope of gain is gone, we shall go away.

We have not heard of the arrival of the Consul at Badagry; we have been expecting him since the 10th instant; we cannot tell what has detained him. I have received, however, a note from Mr. Gollmer, stating that he is hourly expected, and that two cruizers had been there expecting to meet him. Mr. Hutton is at Badagry, and tells Mr. Gollmer that a Vice-Consul is appointed for Badagry, a Mr. Beresford. We are sorry to hear of the death of the Governor of Cape Coast Castle.

I have inclosed a note, without address, for the lady who so kindly got the box of clothes for us; I have left it without, because my memory fails me whether I am thus indebted to Mrs. Trotter or Mrs. Palmer. I hope it will be kindly excused, and if you would also favour me by addressing it to the lady to whom I ought to address it, I should be greatly obliged. I did not like to let the box remain unacknowledged.

and thought it better to write in this way through you, than not to write at all.

Please to give our kind and Christian regards to Mrs. Trotter, who, we hope, through the Divine mercy, enjoys better health. We have been greatly blessed in that respect since our return; we know not how long it may be continued to us. I feel greater weakness than I used to do before, and indisposition to move about, and very soon alarmed at trifles. Wishing that every blessing may be bestowed upon you from the Lord,
I remain, &c.

(Signed) HENRY TOWNSEND.

No. 31.

The Rev. C. A. Gollmer to Captain H. D. Trotter.—(Communicated to Viscount Palmerston by Captain Trotter, April 7.)

(Extract.)

Badagry, January 13, 1851.

THE thermometer of religious inquiry and anxiety is still low. Knowledge increases, and conviction of right and wrong may be observed as its offspring, here and there; but of new creatures, the fruit of the Holy Spirit, which we long to see, we cannot speak. The thermometer of iniquitous agitation, on the contrary, stands still high, yea, of late, it rose here to "fever heat," which, had God not watched over us, might have consumed us. Twice our town was nigh being burnt down by the Lagos people here, who were about doing so in revenge upon the Popos, who, since the last few months, have, contrary to an existing law, gone to Lagos and are determined to open the road, and trade with Lagos, which Akitoye* will not allow, as it renders his residence here unsafe: however, the Popos, the last few weeks, went down in so numerous a party, that it was difficult to oppose the movement. We still fear one of these days we shall suddenly be alarmed with war and destruction. The town we of course keep quite neutral. Yet often we are consulted, when we advise peace. Captain Beecroft, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, has at last arrived, on the 2nd of January, and was received with honours here. On the 7th he went to Abbeokuta with Mr. Van Cooten, and I have just heard of their safe arrival, and how white and black chiefs went to meet him some eight miles on the way, and showed him much honour. We hope much good will ensue from this visit. If only our merchants would be more one with us, and not for filthy lucre's sake cherish and nourish what is the curse of this country; these gents, of course, do not want to see a Consul, one who will report their proceedings. Mr. Hutton was down, and his vessel sold a cargo, I believe powder, at Lagos, and Mr. Hutton himself went to Lagos to do business. The Consul is in favour of Akitoye, the expelled rightful King of Lagos, who petitions him for Government to take Lagos, plant the British flag there and establish him under it, and he will make a Treaty to abolish all Slave Trade and carry on only lawful traffic. I trust Government will take it up, for Lagos is certainly the focus of the Slave Trade, and will be a great acquisition, especially for missionary operations.

The Slave Trade is not only greatly checked, but nearly done for; the slave-traders are nearly mad on account of the Brazilian laws respecting the Trade, and the vigilance and close blockade of our cruisers; it may be that we shall have to suffer. The converts at Abbeokuta in one district are persecuted in consequence of the Slave Trade being spoilt at Lagos. Of 137 slaves, Mr. Townsend tells me only 7 were purchased the other day.

* The legitimate but expelled Chief of Lagos, who lives at Badagry, or very near it.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 10.)

(Extract.)

Clarence, Fernando Po, February 21, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to communicate to your Lordship a brief detail of my visit to Badagry and Abbeokuta.

During my stay at Badagry I had a private interview with Akitoye, the ex-King of Lagos. He is a quite prudent man, to all appearances; and from what was communicated to me by Mr. Gollmer and himself, it is too obvious that there is a league formed with Kosoko, his nephew, the present Ruler of Lagos, and the Popos of Badagry, against Akitoye, so far advanced, that his life is in danger, indeed he has offered a premium for his head. Akitoye has a great number of followers, and they are kept continually under arms.

I advised him to keep peace, unless attacked, until I returned from Abbeokuta, and that he must write me a full statement of his grievances; that I intended to-morrow to convene a meeting of the chiefs of Badagry, ten in number, with himself. I sent a messenger with my ring, accordingly, requesting the different chiefs to attend a conference held by me, Rev. Gollmer, and Dr. Van Cooten, at 10 o'clock to-morrow.

It was noon before they were all assembled. I read to them my commission, after which other small matters were discussed. I then addressed them relative to Kosoko of Lagos tampering with some parties relative to a person of note under their protection, and I considered it their imperative duty to protect him to the last. They denied having any communication with Kosoko on that matter. I told them that I was going in a day or two to start for Abbeokuta; that I strongly impressed upon them, whatever they did, to preserve peace, which they faithfully promised to do; that on my return from Abbeokuta we should meet again; so the conference broke up. One of the parties present, called Mayen, ex-King of Porto Novo, is a staunch friend of Akitoye's; they are afraid of the two parties and the Popos, the instruments of Kosoko. My Lord, you must be aware that the road to Lagos from Badagry has been shut since Akitoye was expelled; now the Popos have opened it, contrary to his wish, and they are combining with his enemies to destroy him; now the road is open he is not safe. I strongly advised Akitoye to have patience and a still tongue, until my return from Abbeokuta, which he faithfully promised to do.

I left Badagry on the 7th ultimo, accompanied by Dr. Van Cooten, and arrived at Awiyadee on the 9th, ten miles from Abbeokuta, where he remained all night.

Next morning at 10 o'clock we were joined by the Revs. H. Townsend, Smith, Crowther, Church missionaries, and Mr. Bickersteth, Wesleyan Society. They were rejoiced to meet me. After a light refreshment we started at 10.30, and arrived at the river. At 11.30 waited some time for the arrival of Mr. Townsend. We started and crossed the stream; it will be about 500 yards wide when at its height in the centre, and in a great part in crossing at this season of the year there were two feet depth. We entered the walls of the town at 10 o'clock. I was certainly astonished when such a mass of houses presented themselves; I was informed that I only saw a small part of the town; I replied it contains more near 120,000 souls than fifty. I was shown as the Lion, and paraded through the longest part of the town, and arrived at Mr. Townsend's compound at 3.30. I was warmly and cordially received by Mr. and Mrs. Townsend.

11th.—At daylight I accompanied Mr. Townsend to the summit of a mass of granite and feldspar; found the interstices in a decomposed state, and vegetation going on. There is a good view, but the morning was hazy. I sent messengers to Sagbua; they returned, and stated that he had heard that I had made peace at Badagry, but still he was afraid that Akitoye would suffer, and it is certain the King of Dahomey was coming. He said he would call on me privately to-night to see me; it is not his desire that all we know should be made public or exposed to some of the public

members of the Council. During the day Rev. I. Smith called; it is about two or two and a half miles to his compound. Several of the Sierra Leone emigrants came to pay their respects. I inquired of them what country they hailed from; they acknowledged themselves to be British subjects, and of course claimed British protection. I inquired of them their intentions when they left Sierra Leone; they replied, each one to go to his own country. I then told them that they were perfectly aware, acknowledging themselves British subjects, that they were subject to British law, wherever it might reach them, and trusted that they had strictly adhered to the law; but, my Lord, I was sorry to find they were discomfited on that question, because those that had joined their own families, of course they were again under the influence of that abominable Traffic the Slave Trade. I was informed that on their arrival there, the late Chief, Sadokee, had offered them a choice of ground to form their own town and abide by their own English laws; but it is too obvious the offer was treated lightly, their attention not being called to the facts just now stated, for which they are in a great calamity and very sorry at present. Under all the circumstances of the case, the people are not to blame; if they had had a head, it would have been somewhat better for them at this moment. They were rather astonished at my rebuke, they begged my acceptance of a sheep as a present from their body. The Rev. S. Crowther harangued them on the point. I had been discussing with them quietly for some time, when they expressed a wish to take their leave, which of course was granted.

Sagbua, the head chief, sent a messenger to Mr. Townsend, stating that he was at liberty, that he would be glad to see him and the stranger. Accordingly we went, accompanied by all our friends. On our arrival I saluted the chief as a messenger of peace from my mistress the Queen of England; he returned the salute very graciously, and enquired kindly after Her Majesty and all the Royal Family; if they were well when I left England; he then said he was more than glad to see at Abbeokuta, and trusted that God would long spare me for the sake of Africa. I then told him, as it was late, I merely called to pay my respects. I then spoke a few words, and told him that I was very anxious that he should announce to all his war-chiefs and traders, that I wished to have a conference as early in next week as possible. I got up to take my leave; he said he must rise to salute me: he was the father of the white men here before my arrival; that I was his father. I thanked him for the compliment and took our leave.

In the evening Sagbua and a few of his attendants waited on me. After the first salutation he intimated through the interpreter, that it was his desire that our party should be private, with the exception of two or three of his confidential attendants; we accordingly adjourned to my private room, accompanied by Mr. Townsend. I then communicated my errand to Abbeokuta, as a messenger of peace, and to consult upon the best means to arrest this abominable Traffic—the foreign Slave Trade, and to introduce legitimate trade. He immediately commenced upon Lagos and Kosoko, the present chief and usurper, and said he was a bad man; that matters could never go on peaceably with him at the head as ruler; that he paid great sums of cowries to several slave-dealers in districts of Abbeokuta, to get them to set their face against and persecute the missionaries at Badagry and here, and told them if they were sent away, he would send slave-vessels to anchor off Badagry to take slaves; he sent presents also to the King of Dahomey, to induce him to raise war against Abbeokuta; which is the occasion of harassing them very much every dry season, his people being deterred from visiting their farms on that very account. Guezo, the King of Dahomey, his continued threats render them anxious and desirous that he should come and try his skill with them in one of their open grass-fields, and decide the matter; Sagbua said his Egbas must and would fight hard for their all, for they had not any back-doors, for they were beset with enemies to the eastward, the Jebos bordering on Benin, instruments in the hands of Kosoko of Lagos. He said the Egbas were most anxious for legitimate trade, and too anxious that the above-mentioned place should be wrested from the

usurper, and Akitoye, the right chief, in his proper position, and under the protection of the British flag, or otherwise, as Her Majesty's Government should deem fit; all would go on right. A canoe can communicate with Lagos in one night, and ascend to Abbeokuta in two days, on the River Ogu. I then communicated to him my visit to the King of Dahomey, and what passed relative to Abbeokuta. He was much pleased, but all his sentiments were relative to Lagos and placing Akitoye on the throne as before; all would go right; he was ready with his chiefs to enter into any Treaty the English Government pleased to dictate. His sentiments do not differ in the smallest relative to the abominable Traffic in Slaves; all his chiefs were anxious to leave it off,—only a few of the creatures of that fellow Kosoko here, to our great annoyance. I then again reminded him that I was anxious to have an interview and a conference. He promised it should be arranged for the beginning of the week, this being Saturday. He desired me not to mention at the public conference any matters about Kosoko; I was at perfect liberty to state all other matters on the subject of the Slave Trade and my visit to Abomey. I told him on some subjects I should be obliged to speak aloud; he said I was right. He expressed himself much pleased with his interview, and desired to take leave. After family prayers retired to rest.

12th. *Sunday*.—Visited the church, morning and afternoon; it was full, there were about 200 hearers. Mr. Townsend read the Church Service in the Yoruba tongue, the sermon was communicated through an interpreter. It was really interesting to hear the little dark creatures lisping their Maker's praises; it was delightful to see the solemnity of the little church, and so well attended; he will have to enlarge it soon. It is a very comfortable building, walls of switch and mud, with a high thatch roof, and well ventilated.

14th. *Tuesday*.—After breakfast some of the chiefs commenced their parade towards the grand square, near Chief Sagbua's mansion; it was close to Mr. Townsend's compound. One of the elders named Lara called on me. 11 o'clock, drums and umbrellas were seen advancing in the distance towards the grand square where the conference was to be held; near the council-chamber there were several shady trees. It was 12 o'clock when our procession arrived at the place; chairs and benches had been placed near the shade of a large tree. I was placed in a large arm-chair, and in full uniform, but not pleasing; the thermometer 95°. To the right all the war-chiefs, about twenty; to the left, under the verandah of the council-house, Sagbua and the commercial community; a great host of spectators, including a great number of Sierra Leone emigrants. After saluting them, the Rev. H. Townsend introduced me in a short and appropriate speech, relative to my visit, and of its being previously communicated to the chiefs, &c. Trusted they would listen to my counsel, and duly appreciate the Queen of England and her Government's kind intentions towards them. Reverend friend sat down. I then stood up and read my commission; it was interpreted by the Rev. S. Crowther, after which I thanked them in the name of Her Britannic Majesty and her Government, for the kind protection afforded to God's messengers, and mentioned that they must be well aware that there cannot exist any other motive than a just and pure one, in being anxious to serve the sons and daughters of Africa; it is too obvious when they look upon all those people that have returned to their relatives and families, after a very long absence, and the fact of their being released from thralldom, and nourished and cherished by the English for a number of years; some have returned to their families and friends rich; it is only the English that have shown such a strong desire to renovate and reform Africa, and pull it out of the awful darkness that overshadows it. Her example has obliged other nations to step in to her aid.

I then communicated my visit to the King of Dahomey, and what transpired during my residence of six weeks there, and all that was said relative to Abbeokuta and his intention of making war, and of my informing him that it was my intention to visit Abbeokuta in December, or early in January; after which I attacked them, and stated they were blind to

certain persons, Kosoko's creatures, here, for persecuting the people of God; not allowing them their just privileges, indeed taking away their rights because they persisted in going to the church. I then told them that it was by the permission of the principal and responsible chiefs they were admitted here to teach their children and people, and of course I considered it a duty incumbent upon those said chiefs to prevent such awful persecutions by those slave-dealing villains, and I trusted and hoped that they would be able to make a good report to me, and to promise that all persecutions for the future should cease, and be prohibited by introducing a stringent law. I was sorry to state such a report would meet with the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government; such abominable proceedings. I was very anxious myself to make a good report if they would afford me the means. I then took my seat.

An aged gentleman made his appearance from the council-chamber and thanked me and the Queen of England and her Government for all the good she had done for Africa; they had not words to express their gratitude and joy for all the benefits bestowed on them by the English. It is pleasing to them when they reflect they have such a staunch friend, for they are beset by enemies on every side: there is Kosoko at Lagos, and his creatures the Jebos. They are puzzled to know why the King of Dahomey is continually troubling and threatening to destroy them for nothing; six or seven years ago he sent the late chief, Sadokee, 200 horses' tails and 40 slaves, to secure a lasting peace, but immediately after his death he turns round and threatens to exterminate us, so we are assailed on all sides. He then thanked me for taking the trouble to travel so far for the welfare of them and their children, for everything that has been done for them by the English has struck them with wonder and amazement at such overwhelming kindness; and furthermore, they hoped that God will protect me from evil, and not allow anything to molest me on my journey. He then sat down.

I arose again and thanked him kindly for his well-meant speech; I then told him that if there were any slave-dealers present, that if they had any place to get rid of their slaves besides Lagos, should there be any such characters present, I would merely impress upon their minds the dire necessity of considering in time the best method to pursue, for they may rest assured that the Queen and her Government are going at it in earnest, and are fully determined to finish it at once; any number of steamers. I merely mentioned this as a friend. I then communicated my visit to Rabba several times, and Laddie (the chief, Massaba, is well known here), and of my long residence of nearly twenty-two years in Africa; that I felt a great interest in their future welfare, and should visit them again, God willing, the latter end of the year. The old gentleman made his appearance again with a short speech, then presented me with a handsome pony and a female goat, from the chiefs in general, for which I returned my most grateful thanks and sat down.

A war-chief named Chacona rose and addressed the people, and stated that he begged them to retain what they had heard from me relative to the kindness of the Queen of England and her Government. He then addressed the Sierra Leone people in particular, and intimated to them that they had been fortunate to meet their families again without any price: he asked them if any of them had sent for me; they replied in the negative. He then said, "you must patiently look into this matter, and look at everything connected with us, his visit to Abomey, and what passed between him and Guezo the King, also the shot sent here: you must penetrate into all this matter." He was at a loss to find words what to say or do sufficiently for all that had been done for them: he then retired. The conference broke up. I arose and shook hands with all the chiefs. We then returned to the mission-house.

18th. *Saturday*.—1 o'clock, the conference was opened by the war-chief Sokena. He saluted me and the missionary gentlemen, wishing us health and prosperity, thanking me for my kind visit, and begged to thank me many, many times for all I had communicated to them at the former conference on the 14th instant. The first request was to assist them in fortifying their town against the attacks of their enemies, which were at continual war with some one or other—they are the Jebos and

Dahomians; secondly, relative to the Popos at Badagry, and Akitoye, the ex-King of Lagos, stating that they were forming a league with Kosoko, to take away the life of Akitoye; thirdly, they were anxious to have legitimate trade, and to do away with the foreign Slave Trade; and lastly, that they had fully determined that Akitoye should be placed under my care and protection. I told them that I would not promise anything; I would report the whole matter to the Government. As far as concerned Akitoye, I was aware he was in jeopardy; but would use my utmost endeavours, as far as an individual can be of service, to protect him from falling into the hands of the Philistines, if I arrived safe at Badagry. And as to legitimate trade, time and patience, I trusted, would ere long bring that about.

Lagos is their only sentiment: send the usurper and slave-dealers out of it, and place Akitoye in his right position; it is a grand opening, and a sweeping clause to the abominable Traffic in that quarter; the Porto Novians the same. We are not prevented by any international law that I am aware of, certainly not at Lagos; and I am not aware of any person but Domingo Martinez at Porto Novo.

The war-chiefs again desired me, on my arrival at Badagry, to use all my influence with the Popos there to deter them from entering into a league with Kosoko for the destruction of Akitoye and all his people. I promised them faithfully to use all the influence in my power, but I truly believe the Popos to be a faithless set of vagabonds. I saw through them at the conference, previous to my route here. I then asked from them a faithful promise that the persecutions against God's people should cease; they all immediately assented to it, and shook each other by the hand. There were three women that had fled from their persecutions for succour in this compound, they had been here some time; the war-chiefs were requested to send a messenger with them to the council-chamber of Sagbua and his council that had met for civil palavers, to send for the party, and arrange if they could be sent to their own place of abode, to be there at peace, and not to be molested again by the worthless creatures of Kosoko.

Mr. Townsend introduced a man to me that has just returned from Lagos; he reported that he had been a resident there for three weeks; that during that period the Badagry people had arrived twice, and that Kosoko, the ruler there, had entertained them sumptuously, killing pigs and goats, giving them rum, cloth, and cowries; had a festival and dancing; they then held a conference to consult as to the best means to attack Badagry. It was arranged that he should get all his war-canoes ready; they had been laid up for some time. They then considered that there were several guns at Badagry, which rather intimidated them, and gave them some alarm; they were afraid they would be turned against them by the English: they then began to prevaricate about the matter. He also related Mr. Hutton's visit with another white man; he stated that their visit was not agreeable to Kosoko. I inquired of him if he knew any news of the messenger. He said that he had not heard any more about the matter; that was all he had heard from a friend of his who was present at the conference with Kosoko and the Badagrians. He then took his leave. It is rather difficult to get at facts.

After dinner I took a short walk, and returned at sunset. 7 o'clock, Ogu-Bonno, one of the principal war-chiefs, with his two messengers that are to accompany me to Badagry, and to see me safe from the beach. Shortly afterwards, Sagbua arrived, so we retired to my private room, accompanied by Messrs. Townsend, Smith, Hinderer, and Dr. Van Cooten. We went over the whole of the conference, and other matters that have passed at various times relative to Akitoye and Lagos; he was now left under my protection, for they were certain that Kosoko would have his life. I harangued them strongly for not carrying out these measures at once against those persecuting wretches, instruments of that rascal at Lagos, as they please to term him. Also I told them they would allow two or three bad men to spoil their good name. Ogu-Bonno said his neck was in a noose, and in due season it should be hauled tight. They were here nearly three hours; it was a repetition of all that had passed at the different conferences. They then took their leave, and we all very readily retired to rest.

It is the current report here, that Lagos is going to war with Badagry,

and is determined upon the destruction of Akitoye and Mayen; it is also reported here that Mr. Hutton and another white man have been to Lagos, and that two messengers came with them from Kosoko. After family worship, retired to rest.

No. 33.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 10.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, February 24, 1851.

IN my previous despatch I gave your Lordship a detail of my visit to Abbeokuta, and all matters connected with Badagry, and Lagos, and Akitoye, the ex-King of Lagos. Your Lordship will find, in detail, the sentiments of the principal war-chiefs of that important place; that it is legitimate trade, and the latter place under the protection of the British flag, that would be a sweeping clause to the Slave Trade in all that vicinity; a field would be open to the interior. There are three or four large towns, within two days' journey, that are friendly to the Abbeokutians.

My Lord, I am fortunate to have escaped out of the hands of the emissaries of that vile wretch Kosoko, for it was his intention to finish my career; Mr. Gollmer told me he had it from good authority; when he heard it, it was too late to write me; he had received advice of my intended departure. I can only account for the escape in having a good horse and quick travelling, performing the journey in one day less than generally done.

I have been informed by a person that was at Lagos, that the massacre in 1845 was awful; he exterminated the whole of his uncle's family and people, about 2000, and the lagoon was a pest-house for weeks, owing to the dead carcasses in it.

Commander Foote, of the "Prometheus," brought my ring that I sent by a messenger two days before I left Badagry; they met the Porto Novians on their route; they would not listen to any proposal, but sent them back with my ring. It was fortunate the "Prometheus" was off Badagry, and received a letter from Mr. Gollmer, reporting the state of affairs.

Commander Foote landed an officer and men, with a field-piece; I presume it had the effect of turning the rascals back. I have not seen Commander Foote; he had left previous to the "Jackal's" arrival from Old Calabar.

The best place to land to attack Lagos is at Badagry; you go down the lagoon, *sans cérémonie*; you may surround it, being an island. My Lord, you will pardon my presuming to offer an opinion on the matter, but they all want coercion—the Porto Novians as well as others; but Lagos ought not to be allowed to escape; place the right person there, all is well. It is a well-known fact that the Slave Trade in that quarter has received a great shock.

A great number went from Abbeokuta just before I arrived. All arrived but seven; they are in great consternation.

My Lord, you are no doubt aware that the dry season is the time for Lagos; a smooth beach. I shall be enabled to communicate more fully my proceedings on my return from Benin.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

No. 34.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 10.)

(Extract.)

Clarence, Fernando Po, February 24, 1851.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose a copy of a letter addressed to me by Akitoye, the ex-King of Lagos.

Inclosure in No. 34.

King Akitoye to Consul Beecroft.

I, KING AKITOYE, of Lagos, salute you and your great Queen and Government, and I wish you all happiness, peace and prosperity. May God bless your great Queen, and grant her a long and happy reign.

I rejoice very much to see the day which has brought you, the Representative of England, to this town, particularly at this time when I am surrounded by dangers. Indeed I very much need your protection, as my life is every moment at stake.

I humbly beg to bring my case before you, and trust you will condescend to listen patiently to what I have to say.

In order that you may better understand the whole affair, allow me at the commencement to inform you that the King of Benin has the undisputed right to crown or confirm the individual whom the people of Lagos elect to be their King.

After the death of the late King, which happened about nine years ago, I was unanimously chosen by the people of Lagos to be their King, and was lawfully crowned or confirmed by the King of Benin.

As a King who delights in peace, and wishes for nothing so much as the welfare and prosperity of his people, I endeavoured to promote peace among all classes of people. To this end I recalled home many exiles who had been sent away from the kingdom in the preceding reign. I chartered a vessel to go to Whydah, and to bring back my nephew, Kosoko, although it was at a great expense. I admonished him to put away all former hostilities, and begged that we should all live together in peace. After three years' peaceful reign, I thought of inviting the English to Lagos; but knowing that they are much against the Slave Trade, and that no friendly intercourse can exist between us, without giving it up, I, after much consideration, determined to abolish it from my dominions, if the English will agree to carry on lawful trade with me.

Accordingly I wrote two letters, one to the ships of war, and the other to the Governor of Cape Coast, both which letters I sent to Badagry to be forwarded; but, I am sorry to say, were delayed for a long time. This was at the year 1845.

While I was thinking of nothing but how to regulate the affairs of my kingdom in peace and quietness, Kosoko, my nephew, whom I have mentioned above, without any regard to the obligations he was under, breaking through all ties of gratitude and common humanity, made preparations for entering into animosities with me.

He, in the preceding reign, had been found guilty of an attempt of usurpation, in consequence of which he was banished. A few days after I wrote the letters to the English Government, he (Kosoko) collected a large number of his wicked boys together and waged war upon me. This war lasted twenty-one days, during which time more than thousand of lives were lost, and which terminated in my being expelled from Lagos—bribery and treachery leaving me no alternative.

Kosoko having thus set himself upon a blood-stained throne, has maintained his position by his daring wickedness, though the King of Benin never acknowledged nor confirmed him, and though thousands of people are against him.

Being thus turned away, I took refuge among my own friends and relatives at Abbeokuta, who kindly took me up and protected me against Kosoko's inhuman attempt to seek my life. But thinking that I should have better chance to communicate with the English, and that I might be nearer Lagos to watch the movements of Kosoko and the affairs of my kingdom, I took my residence at Badagry.

I need not tell you, Sir, what a calamity it is for a King to be reduced to my distressful circumstances. I find myself obliged to solicit your assistance, and I am reduced to the necessity of begging your aid against an enemy who has seized my throne and kingdom.

My humble prayer to you, Sir, the Representative of the English

Government, who, it is well known, is ever ready and desirous to protect the defenceless, to obtain redress for the grievance of the injured, and to check the triumphs of wickedness, is, that you would take Lagos under your protection, that you would plant the English flag there, and that you would re-establish me on my rightful throne at Lagos, and protect me under my flag: and with your help I promise to enter into a Treaty with England to abolish the Slave Trade at Lagos, and to establish and carry on lawful trade, especially with the English merchants.

Trusting my petition will meet with a favourable reception, I remain, &c.

(Signed) AKITOYE.

No. 35.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, June 11, 1851.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you for the information of Viscount Palmerston, the copy of a letter from Commodore Fanshawe, dated 25th March last, and of its inclosures, respecting the proceedings of the King of Dahomey and the depression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Centaur," off Quittah, March 25, 1851.

IN reply to your letter of the 12th ultimo, transmitting to me by the directions of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, which stated, with reference to my despatch to you of the 28th October*, 1850, that his Lordship considered it important I should ascertain if the letter I had addressed to the King of Dahomey on the subject of his making war on Abbeokuta, had been received by His Majesty; I have the honour to request you will be pleased to acquaint their Lordships that I have ascertained that the letter was received by the King, and that he very quickly sent down messengers from Abomey to Whydah with the letter, and instructions to his Cabooceer at the latter place to request (through the agent of Mr. Hutton) that the senior officer of Her Majesty's ships would send an officer on shore to explain the contents of the letter, as he "wished no Portuguese to hear of any of his affairs with the Englishmen."

The attention of Captain Adams being occupied at the moment with some disturbances in the Benin and Calabar Rivers, affecting British property, some time elapsed before he was able to comply with this request, but on his return to Whydah he sent Lieutenant Dew, Senior Lieutenant of the "Gladiator," on shore for the purpose; and I inclose a copy of his report to Captain Adams on return, of his interview with the Cabooceer, which with copies also of a letter which I have received from the English missionaries at Abbeokuta, and of an extract from Captain Adams' general report to me on rejoining him, I hope will be satisfactory to their Lordships and Her Majesty's Government; both as showing the respect of the King of Dahomey for Her Majesty and her subjects, and the general depression of the Slave Trade in this quarter.

The King I understand to be now occupied on a slave-hunt; but I am proceeding to Badagry, where I may perhaps receive further intelligence of him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAW.

* Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

Lieutenant Dew to Captain Adams.

Sir,

"Gladiator," off Whydah, February 27, 1851.

IN obedience to your order, I landed at Whydah on the 26th instant, and was received on the beach by Mr. Reynolds, an agent of Mr. Hutton's; he provided hammocks, and we were carried to the town, distant four miles. I immediately proceeded to the residence of the Cabooceer, accompanied by Mr. Reynolds, who acted as interpreter, and was received by him and his headmen. A letter was put into my hands, written by Commodore Fanshawe, and addressed to the King of Dahomey, which the Cabooceer requested me to read: I did so, explaining it paragraph by paragraph to him and his chiefs, no white person being present.

He stated that this letter had been to Abomey, but the King would not permit it to be read by the Portuguese resident there, as it might affect their interests.

The Cabooceer stated, on the part of the King of Dahomey, that it was not his intention to make war on Abbeokuta, and that all British subjects in his dominions should be held sacred.

He stated it was his wish to stop the Slave Trade, but as all his revenue was derived from it he must have compensation. He wished the Queen of England to send some officer on revenue days to see the amount he received from the Slave Traffic, so that she may judge what she ought to give him to stop the Trade. He would stop it in all parts of his dominions, save Whydah, but there he could not stop it at present, as there were too many Portuguese residing there, who paid him the greater part of his revenue.

Mr. Reynolds told me that the Slave Trade was in a most depressed state, no shipment having taken place for many months, and that the slave-merchants finding all efforts to get off slaves futile, had commenced trafficking in palm-oil. M. da Souza was then loading two vessels in the roads.

In consequence of the heavy surf, no canoe-men could be induced to bring me off last night, and it was only by using threats this morning that I obtained a canoe. Since the death of Mr. Hastie, the King of Dahomey has threatened death to any canoe-men who may lose the life of any Englishman, and I attribute the difficulty of obtaining a boat to this, and to no other cause.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. DEW.

Inclosure 3 in No. 35.

The Missionaries at Abbeokuta to Commodore Fanshawe.

Sir,

Abbeokuta, November 7, 1850.

YOUR letters to Mr. Gollmer, of October 21st and 23rd, were kindly forwarded to us, and we desire, in accordance with your wish, to inform you of our real position here.

Permit us first to thank you for your kind sympathy and attention which we esteem very highly, and also for the offer of ammunition. We hope the King of Dahomey will be induced to forego his intended invasion of this country, through your letter to him.

There are a large number of Sierra Leone people residing here, but so intermixed with the native population, that we could not expect to be able to form any sort of combination for self-defence. We are afraid, also, to acquaint them of your offer of ammunition, lest it should come to the knowledge of the native chiefs, who would be induced thereby to lean upon us for assistance, instead of exerting themselves, and would probably

think we had an unlimited supply of the munitions of war, and expect from us what we could not give.

On receiving Mr. Beecroft's letter we immediately acquainted the senior chief with its contents, as far as it concerned him. He convened a public meeting as soon as possible, and we were requested to meet them, and to tell the assembly what we had before communicated to the Chief in private. We received their thanks for our information, and a small present. Several chiefs made speeches to the assembly, to excite each other to exertions for self-defence; there appeared nothing like fear of the renowned King of Dahomey.

A short time before, a warlike expedition was sent out against a town called Ibégé. This town is under Dahomian protection, and is not unjustly suspected of having led them to destroy a large town, called Okeadon, two years since; and for this offence, and to get rid of a neighbour ever likely to be a spy for the Dahomians, the expedition was sent out. They have just accomplished its destruction; and while writing this, the sound of muskets discharged by the returning conquerors, laden with spoil and captives, announces their triumph.

We cannot but expect that this event will be likely to confirm the King of Dahomey in his intended attack upon this place. We hope he will not; if he does, a fearful loss of life will ensue: if he becomes the conqueror of this town, it cannot be, humanly speaking, but with the death of hundreds—probably thousands; and if he should be defeated, but few, it is likely, will ever reach their own country, the inhabitants of every town and country—the inhabitants of every town and village—would rise and aid in cutting off his retreating people. They fear and hate him; his human sacrifices make even a negro to look upon him as a monster of cruelty. If their people are taken in war by surrounding tribes, there is a probability of their being able to redeem them; but from the Dahomians there is no hope of their ever returning.

Should this town be besieged and taken, we shall endeavour to await the issue, and if there be no chance of escape, we shall hoist an English ensign over our houses, and allow them to make us prisoners.

- We have been informed frequently during the last six months, that the Slave Trade is greatly distressed at Lagos, and in consequence the price of slaves has gone down 15 dollars; from 60 dollars to 45 dollars per slave, with but a limited supply. It has been our endeavour to obtain correct information, and without a single exception, every one connected with Lagos or the Slave Trade has told us that through the efforts of the English cruisers, the Trade is spoiled. A day or two since, a messenger from one of the Lagos chiefs to the chiefs here, called on us. We, as our custom is, endeavoured to hear from him the state of the Slave Trade at Lagos. He told us, to be brief, that very few slave-ships escape the cruisers; that the white slave-dealers were in great dread of the English; that the Lagos chiefs had lately received a letter from the English, stating that the Queen of England had had patience long enough with them, and that now they must give up the Slave Trade; also that an English merchant had been there buying palm-oil and ivory, and that they were still collecting these articles for him.

We are expecting to derive much advantage from Mr. Beecroft's intended visit, as tending to establish a good understanding between this place and the British Government, which will help forward a development of the resources and trade of the country, and the industrious spirit of the people. Strangers to this country suppose there is an innate desire among the negroes for the Slave Trade, but we are happy in knowing that any trade is sought for that produces profit, in which respect we believe they do not differ from civilized men. In truth, they have been utterly ignorant up to within a very few years, that Europeans would purchase anything but slaves, and therefore they had no choice before them but between trading in slaves and no trade. At the present time, there is a flourishing trade between this and Lagos, a large and important part of which consists of the produce of the farms of Abbeokuta. There is a considerable trade with Badagry: they carry down indigo, native cloth, soda, ivory, occasionally horses and slaves. They bring back guns,

powder, English cloth, &c. Their traders also carry their goods from 100 to 150 miles to the northward of this, carrying guns, powder, cloth, cowries, dollars, &c., and bringing native cloth, beads, ivory, soda, and slaves. Slaves are but one item of their home trade, although it may be a large one, but no description of property comes amiss to them, if they can but sell at a profit.

With these facts before us, we look for the coming of Her Majesty's Consul with the hope that his visit may be productive of good in directing the commercial spirit of the people to the right channel. We do not think there is sufficient power in the Government of this place to warrant their making a Treaty for the immediate suppression of the Slave Trade; if they should have, as some profess, a sincere desire for it, we think it would be impossible for them to keep it with the little real power that this Government possesses. The arrangements connected with trade are lodged in a company, a sort of guild, in possession of considerable power and probably wealth. What may be done with these we don't know; at present their leading man is closely connected with Lagos, and has evinced considerable personal animosity against us on account of the depression in the Slave Trade.

We desire, Sir, most sincerely to thank you for the kind exertions you have made for our safety; we feel that we occupy a position that we must for the welfare of the people maintain, come what may, relying upon the Divine protection, and also, as means in His hands, the fear and respect with which Her Majesty's squadron is regarded we shall await the issue of events. It is our constant prayer and desire before God, that He may be pleased to prosper the efforts of Her Majesty's cruisers under your command for the suppression of the Slave Trade; an event that we believe is not only to be desired, but expected.

With much respect, &c
(Signed) H. TOWNSEND, *Church Missionary Society.*
ISAAC SMITH, *Church Missionary.*
DAVID HINDERER.
SAML. CROWTHER, *Church Missionary Society.*
EDWD. BICKERSTETH, *Wesleyan Missionary Society.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 35.

Captain Adams to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Extract.)

"*Gladiator*," March 24, 1851.

EVERY assistance has been rendered to the British missionaries at Badagry, agreeably to your directions, keeping up a repeated communication with that place, and exercising at general quarters in this ship and in the several cruisers in that part of the Bights.

I continue to receive repeated assurances from the most credible persons, of the decline of the Slave Trade on this part of the coast, owing, as it is alleged, to the strict blockade maintained by Her Majesty's cruisers here.

The British missionaries at Abbeokuta and at Badagry acquaint me that the Traffic from Cape St. Paul to Lagos is nearly at an end; that within the last two months 135 slaves were marched down from Abbeokuta to Lagos, for sale to the slave-merchants, but they were unable to find a purchaser. Five of them were afterwards sold as domestic slaves, the rest were marched back into the interior; a circumstance hitherto unheard of by any of the residents. They further allege that many of the slave-dealers are ruined, and that at Lagos some of them are actually selling the furniture out of their houses to procure provisions for their slaves.

The French merchant-barque "*Tourville*" touched at Fernando Po. She was bound to London with a cargo of palm-oil from Don José Domingo Martinez, consigned to Messrs. Forster and Smith. The supercargo informed me that he was at Porto Novo three months shipping his

cargo; and from Don Martinez' remarks, and his own observation, he considered the Traffic thereabouts nearly at an end.

Martinez asserted that if the British took or destroyed Lagos, Slavery would be done away with in the Bights. That he was present when Martinez refused to purchase slaves at from 7 to 8 dollars each, stating he had come to the determination of having no more to do with them, owing to the difficulties of the passage across to Brazil. That Martinez realized large sums by the trade in palm-oil.

The deposed King of Lagos with some of his family and retinue were brought from Badagry to Fernando Po in the "Jackal," by Her Majesty's Consul, a reward having been offered for his head by the present usurper.

No. 36.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, June 11, 1851.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, the copy of a letter from Commodore Fanshawe, dated 30th March last, and of its inclosures, respecting an attack made by the King of Dahomey on Abbeokuta on the 3rd of that month.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

Commodore Fanshawe to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Centaur," off the River Benin, March 30, 1851.

IN my despatch of the 25th instant*, from Quittah, I expressed my intention of proceeding to Badagry, with the expectation of obtaining further information of the movements of the King of Dahomey; and I have now to request that you will be pleased to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed copies of letters which I received on my arrival off Badagry on the 26th instant, from the Church missionaries at that place and at Abbeokuta, giving me the account of a furious assault which the King with his army had made on Abbeokuta on the 3rd instant; and, I am happy to add, of the signal repulse and defeat which he experienced.

2. This attack and conduct is quite irreconcilable with the assurance which had so recently been given to Lieutenant Dew, of the "Gladiator," by the Cabooceer at Whydah, of the King's intentions, and with the promised protection for British subjects throughout his dominions, made at a moment when one must suppose he knew his master was actually marching on Abbeokuta.

3. I therefore must conceive him guilty of the basest deceit and falsehood, or otherwise attribute it to the King having found himself obliged, for his own security, to yield to the repeated demands of the army to be led against the Egbas, backed by the Intagees, and promised assistance of Kosoko, the usurping King of Lagos, who appears to have been much incensed at his rival and kinsman, the ex-King Akitoye, having been taken by Her Majesty's Consul, Mr. Beecroft, on his return from Abbeokuta, in January, from Badagry to Fernando Po, under, as he supposed, British protection.

4. Learning that Mr. Beecroft was detained in the Benin, I proceeded, without delay, from Badagry to this anchorage, for the purpose of conferring with him as to the course it might be desirable to adopt; and I have to request you will be pleased to inform their Lordships, that after full consideration with him to-day of all the circumstances with which we

* Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

are at present acquainted, I have decided that, unless actual outrage or injury to a British subject should occur, it will be more prudent not to follow up my intention of stopping the trade at Whydah and coast contiguous, by the declaration of a blockade of the Dahomian territory, but to submit the subject for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

5. I beg at the same time you will assure their Lordships, that this determination has not arisen from any desire to shrink from the responsibility of such a course, as it might regard other Powers, but solely from the apprehension that any premature act might place the lives of the missionaries and their adherents in great danger, whilst it would not be known in time to influence the further warlike measures of the King this season, and would entirely preclude the placing Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Whydah, whom I had brought on in this ship to join Mr. Beecroft. And,

6. I have also learnt from Captain Adams, who has joined me at this anchorage, that on his hearing, off Whydah, of this assault on Abbeokuta, he had sent on shore a letter to the King, representing again the consequence of any injury being sustained by Her Majesty's subjects.

7. I cannot close this despatch without respectfully calling the attention of their Lordships to the fact, which will indeed, perhaps, strike them as forcibly as it has done me, viz., how impossible it is to place any reliance on the information Her Majesty's officers receive from the Agent at Whydah of Messrs. Hutton, I believe the only British mercantile firm in the Kingdom of Dahomey. He appears to have been chosen as the organ of communication between the Cabooceer and Lieutenant Dew, and almost to have been a party to the deceit which was practised; and therefore how desirable it is that the old British Fort at Whydah should be occupied by some one holding authority under Her Majesty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

The Rev. C. A. Gollmer to the Captain of Her Majesty's ship of war off Badagry.

Dear Sir,

Badagry, March 25, 1851.

I BEG to inclose two letters from the Rev. H. Townsend of Abbeokuta to Commodore Fanshawe, and the Consul Mr. Beecroft, at Fernando Po, which I shall feel obliged if you will kindly forward.

Respecting Abbeokuta, I will only add that it is rumoured the King of Dahomey contemplates another attack upon that town shortly.

Yesterday about noon, two Portuguese arrived here from Lagos with a number of slaves and boxes, and left again for Whydah, I am told, in the evening. Possu, the chief, begged them to return to establish a factory here, but their reply was: "Lagos is spoilt; how much more this town."

I am, &c.

(Signed) C. A. GOLLMER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 36.

The Rev. H. Townsend to Commodore Fanshawe.

Sir,

Abbeokuta, March 19, 1851.

I DEEM it a duty, after the very kind attention you have paid to Her Majesty's subjects residing here, by your efforts to provide for our safety by remonstrating with the King of Dahomey on his intended invasion of this country, to inform you that he totally disregarded your remonstrance, and invaded this country with as large an army as he

could gather together, and made a furious attack upon this place on 3rd instant, proposing to destroy it, and to carry the people away as slaves. In this, however, he was, through God's mercy, disappointed; he sustained a most signal defeat, leaving about 1800 of his men and women-soldiers dead on the field of battle. I sent my own people to count the dead bodies, but they were unable to proceed with their work, from the sight and smell; they left off after counting 1209 dead Dahomians, leaving a large piece of the field not counted.

The Egbas (people of Abbeokuta) were informed by spies and friendly neighbours, of the movements of the King, in time to be prepared for him.

On the morning of 3rd, scouts brought intelligence of their near approach. On hearing this a large number of Egbas rushed out to meet the Dahomians, and met them where the River Ogu is crossed, which, being dry, presented no obstacle. The Dahomians charged the Egbas furiously, and carried all before them; the Egbas fled in confusion until within the wall of their town, when they rallied again, and poured upon the advancing Dahomians such a deadly discharge from their muskets, that their further advance was checked. The women-soldiers were in the fore-front of the Dahomians, and were, I believe, the main strength of this charge. Fresh bodies of Dahomians continued to arrive to sustain those first engaged, and they extended their forces, doubtless with a view of finding a weak unguarded place to attack; but the Egbas extended also, and everywhere the Dahomians met a heavy fire. We witnessed the battle from a height within the town, on our own premises. After a time the Egbas became more confident, and made several successful sallies, and this with much bitterness of feeling, when they found the King of Dahomey had brought women to fight them. They also outflanked the Dahomians, and after much hard fighting drove them to the ford, where the fight had first commenced; here they remained in a compact mass, and night closed upon them. The Egbas endeavoured to break and scatter the Dahomians, but they could not; the Dahomians being in part disciplined, but the Egbas not. The King, with his body-guard, moved off several miles, when he found he could not take the town, for safety; probably his army remained where they did to cover his retreat, or otherwise with a view of carrying off their dead the next morning. Through the night they were harassed from all parties, who sought their opportunity and fired upon them whenever they could approach them; this probably proved to them the impossibility of their attempting anything farther, and they decamped before daybreak. That night, however, they savagely murdered about fifty Egbas—men, women, and children—whom they had picked up in their march, persons engaged in farming, and left their headless bodies on the ground.

The Egbas, as soon as they could gather their people together, pursued the Dahomians, and came up with them at a town called Ishaga, fourteen miles from this, in time to save it from destruction. They fought again, and the Dahomians were beaten a second time, it is said with greater slaughter than that of the first day; their courage and discipline saved them from entire destruction.

We hope the King will learn from this to abstain from his barbarous wars, but it is to be feared that he will not be satisfied without seeking to avenge himself; but the great depression in the Slave Trade will doubtless embarrass him, by rendering it less easy to equip an army. A very large number of muskets and short swords have fallen into the hands of the victors, as well as prisoners.

The prisoners are a very bad sample of the negro race; several of them have murdered persons here, and very many seem to desire to provoke the people to kill them. From these circumstances many have been put to death; at one time I feared all would be killed, from the feelings they had excited against themselves. The chiefs are greatly puzzled what to do with them; they don't wish to sell them as slaves, when they may return home; and they fear to keep them, from their desperate conduct; they are now proposing to send them, or at least many of them, as presents to the interior tribes. I proposed an exchange of prisoners, in one caught in the present war for an Egba slave in the hands of the Dahomians; but I fear nothing can be done towards it.

We cannot ascertain the number of Egbas slain, or even to guess; we know many have fallen, and many are wounded, some very severely. One of their chiefs was killed and several wounded, and two had their horses shot under them.

Kosoko, of Lagos, had a hand in this war upon us. Possu, of Badagry, had many of his people in the Dahomian army; one was made prisoner and another known to have been killed. The former, when he heard that the Dahomians were really upon us, fired a salute in honour of it, and ordered that all fugitive Egbas should be caught, fully expecting the Dahomians to conquer. In retaliation, the Egbas have shut up the Lagos road, and as they are in a great measure dependent on Abbeokuta for provisions, it will be severely felt.

That the King of Dahomey should so lightly regard the repeated requests not to molest this place, may be regarded as an insult to the British Government, more especially so as he had not a shadow of right reason for it. I have inquired, but cannot learn that he gave his army any instructions concerning British subjects: the prisoners at different places to whom the question was directly put, said he gave no instructions. The least he could have done would have been to command them to respect the lives of Her Majesty's subjects. We are thankful to Almighty God, who has delivered us from this danger, to whom be all praise.

With much respect; and with our best wishes for the success of the cruizers under your command,

I remain, &c.
(Signed) H. TOWNSEND,
Minister of Church Missionary Society.

Inclosure 4 in No. 36.

The Rev. C. A. Gollmer to Commodore Fanshawe.

Dear Sir,

Badagry, March 26, 1851.

KNOWING how precious your time is, and not wishing to detain you, I commenced to write to you before Lieutenant Boys came, because I felt you would be anxious to know how we have been going on since your last visit, and what is our present position.

I am sorry to say we have had frequent disturbances in our town, and twice we fully expected an outbreak. Thanks be to God! the respective parties at length listened to advice, and peace was restored. We were under considerable anxiety at the time, particularly as we had several private warnings that our personal safety was in danger; however, God has watched over and preserved us from the evil by which we were surrounded. But we are by no means out of danger, especially just now; the slave-traders are enraged against the English, because they say we are the cause of their trade being spoiled. As a proof of this I may add, that the native Christians at Abbeokuta were much persecuted by a secondary chief, who was instigated by the Lagos slave-dealers to annoy the white men there. We know that they want to get rid of us, but know not how. Kosoko, the usurper at Lagos, about whom you will hear from Mr. Beecroft, is our greatest enemy at present. Since Akitoye, the ex-King of Lagos, left with the Consul, he has done all in his power to set the people against us; and no doubt, if it had not been for the ships of war, he would have done openly what he now seeks to do treacherously, *i.e.* to drive us away. The cause of this is twofold:

1st. Because the Slave Trade is spoiled.

2ndly. He fears the English will dethrone him.

I am happy to be able to inform you that this is true in a great degree, for since Lagos has been so closely watched, it is with difficulty they can get rid of their slaves; and in consequence the slave-traders are greatly perplexed, having so many slaves to feed, and offered instead of \$50 80, only from \$30 50, and at last refused to buy any more. Very few are at present bought at Lagos. Domingo, at Porto Novo, I was told

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offered for a man who was expected to fetch from \$60 70, one roll of tobacco and one keg of powder; worth about \$30. But somehow a ship escapes now and then, which keeps the market up, though greatly depressed.

Two Portuguese passed here last Sunday, from Lagos, on their way to Whydah. It is supposed they ran away. The Chief, Possu, asked them to come and establish a factory here, but they replied, "Lagos is spoiled; how much more your town?"

As regards the second reason of Kosoko, "his fear that the English will dethrone him," I can only say that we and many friends at home shall rejoice over one of the righteous and good acts of yours and our Government, when you do realize his fears, by replacing the rightful King, Akitoye. We shall hail the day as one of great good to Africa, and as by these means one of the great slave-haunts will be destroyed. As you will learn all the particulars connected with Lagos, Akitoye, and Kosoko, from Mr. Beecroft, I need say no more, but that Kosoko is prepared to flee to Badagry, should he be driven out, and also that his friends here are not only ready to receive him, but to take revenge upon us and Akitoye's party here.

The news from Abbeokuta will astonish you. I yesterday forwarded a letter to you, per "Flying-Fish," from the Reverend H. Townsend, from which you will learn all particulars.

Will you believe the King of Dahomey any more, when I tell you, after all that has passed, he on the 3rd of March, with about 20,000 men and women soldiers, really attacked Abbeokuta, without giving any orders, as the prisoners have proved, to regard the English residing there. But you will rejoice to hear that he and his army were defeated, and that he before the walls of Abbeokuta lost in less than six hours' fight about 1800 men, and the day after at the village Ishaga, fourteen miles west (to which place he had retreated, and where he desired to collect his dispersed forces to rest and make another attack), in a desperate battle, a still larger number of his best troops, the Egbas (Abbeokuta) having closely pursued him, and about 1000 prisoners were taken, but not one is to be sold.

Kosoko and Possu here were proved to be connected with the Dahomians in this war, on account of which the Abbeokuta people entirely closed their road to Lagos, and wish the people here to do the same.

It is rumoured that Dahomey is waiting for reinforcements to make another desperate attack upon Abbeokuta shortly. I hear all Abbeokuta is at work to repair and build their walls; they have a good supply of guns, powder, and shot, but I wish they had the aid of one or two small guns.

I am thankful for the good news that our friends at Sierra Leone are all well, and also for the newspapers you kindly sent me.

Thanking you for the very warm interest you take in our behalf, and wishing you health and every good success in your undertaking for the good of Africa,

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. A. GOLLMER.

No. 37.

The Rev. H. Townsend to the Secretary of the Church Missionary Society.—(Communicated to Viscount Palmerston by the Earl of Chichester, June 14.)

My dear Sir,

Abbeokuta, Tuesday, March 4, 1851.

I HASTEN to write a few lines, to forward to Badagry, with a hope that it may meet with an early opportunity for England.

Yesterday morning we received here your communication of November 29, 1850, which proved most acceptable to us. It is with the greatest thankfulness I desire to communicate the joyful tidings of the defeat of the Dahomian King before the walls of Abbeokuta yesterday, and that they have fled, according to our latest accounts, some sixteen miles, and that the Abbeokuta people are pursuing them. The Lord has been our defender. I scarcely know how to write an account of this event, for I feel

greatly agitated by the events of the past two days—a time to be ever remembered with thankfulness to Him to whom it is most justly due.

The motions of the Dahomians have been watched most thoroughly by the people of the smaller towns to the westward of this, and information sent to the chiefs here. On Saturday morning, such intelligence was conveyed as convinced the chiefs of the necessity of immediately arranging their affairs for self-defence. On Sunday, the war-chiefs formed their camps in three companies on the walls of the town. It became evident to me on Sunday evening, from the preparations which I saw going on when returning from Mr. Smith's church, where I had been to assist him, and from their talk which I heard when passing, that a desperate encounter was before their minds, and that they were preparing for it with a spirit befitting the occasion.

Yesterday, Monday, I went out after breakfast, to view the camps from one of the heights. I did not direct my glass to search for the Dahomians, not knowing the road they might take, nor think of their being at hand. On returning home I heard that they had been seen, and that the advanced party of Egbas had exchanged shots with them. Mr. and Mrs. Smith came up to see us for a little change, having been so long ill; and Mr. Dennis, who came on a visit from Badagry about a week since, also unwell, was also with us.

About 12 o'clock we heard a rapid discharge of fire-arms. I was in the act of showing my interpreter how to form a bullet-mould out of clay, in his house, when we heard it. With great impetuosity of manner he called for his son to bring him his gun, powder, and shot, that he might hasten to the fight, and with extreme difficulty I restrained him, he frequently exclaiming, "I cannot bear it: I must hasten to the battle." He was restrained, however. My cook, without saying anything, or our knowing of it, took his gun and ran off, and fought until the Dahomians were retreating, and shot in the fight one of the female warriors. Another confidential servant ran off in the same manner: having no arms, he purposed stoning the enemy, if they gave him an opportunity. Goodwill, who is Mr. Smith's interpreter, and was left by Mr. S. to look after the premises, ran also to the battle: all seemed to be beside themselves.

In order to view the encounter, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Townsend, Mr. Dennis, and myself, got on a high rock on our ground, whence, with a telescope, we were enabled to view it. The Dahomians advanced in compact lines or masses, bearing all before them. The Egbas endeavoured to check them at the ford of the river, but were utterly unable. They therefore retreated until withinside their walls. The walls were black with people: they poured forth their fire upon the advancing enemy, who were checked, and could not march straight on as they expected, but extended their lines in front of the wall. A most furious discharge of muskets took place from both sides. The Dahomians extended their lines, expecting to find a weak place to attack, and the Egbas extended parallel with them. At this stage of the battle I observed a large mass marching in good order to the attack, and I feared for the result; but they also extended, strengthening their companions. Mr. Bowen, an American missionary, who lodges in our compound, now joined us, he having gone out long before the Dahomians appeared, to see what preparations the Egbas had made, and was on the wall at the time of the first attack. He encouraged us by his account of the firmness of the Egbas: having once been a soldier himself, he had had practical knowledge of warfare in actual service. After a time, we observed that the Dahomians showed a disposition to retire, and also that the Egbas had outflanked them, and were becoming the assailants, setting the grass on fire to annoy their enemies, and firing on them whenever they could. The Dahomians now, evidently, were retiring, but turning about constantly and discharging their muskets: they retired after awhile out of our sight, the firing becoming less and less. While this was going on, the Abbeokuta women were leaving the town at the back, pouring out before us with a few men with them, terrified and cast down: our compound was filled with terrified people. The Egbas now began to show, in truly savage style, some proofs

of their success: the first was a foot of a man who had been slain, then the hand and foot of a woman, and after a while a living captive, one of the renowned women-soldiers. I followed her to the house of her captor, near my own: she was attired in a sort of vest. She spoke to me as freely as our ignorance of each other's language would admit of. The Dahomians retired to the ford.

Mr. Bowen returned to the wall as a spectator, and told me that he saw a daring feat performed by a few of the Egbas. They went and provoked the Dahomians to attack them, which they did: the Egbas fled, but suddenly faced about, and discharged their guns with great effect. He thought he saw four of the Dahomians fall, but the smoke prevented distinct vision.

The Dahomians left many of their party on the battle-field dead, the greater part of whom were women, and many as prisoners, but the number we have not ascertained with any certainty. The King of Dahomey, as soon as darkness permitted, fled with 200 people, leaving the bulk of his army to cover his retreat. They were too strong to be attacked by the Egbas after a long fight, and the Egbas had too little discipline to execute an attack in the night; but they were harassed all the night through by skirmishes, and early in the morning they decamped in good order, followed by the Egbas. They stamped their character with infamy, by an act of great barbarity before retreating. They had taken a number of farmers in their march, prisoners, but before leaving they decapitated forty-two or upwards, and carried off their heads. Their hands being tied, as captives are, and many being identified by their friends, proved that they were not slain in battle: two of them were women, and one a boy. I understand that the heads were cast away in the retreat afterwards.

This King is the monster who calls himself the friend of the white people at Whydah, and of the Slave Trade, and by such wars slaves are procured! What would the members of the Peace Society have done behind the walls of Abbeokuta, with these disciplined barbarians advancing in masses to the attack? Through mercy they have been repelled, but many of the Egbas have fallen, and many are severely wounded.

One of my candidates came to us in the afternoon, begging for some one to extract a shot from his shoulder: it had entered at the side of the upper part of the arm, and passed about six inches through the flesh, outside of the shoulder-blade. Mr. Dennis ventured to try, although he had never done anything of the sort before, and after considerable trouble cut it out. The poor man's first act, on hearing that it was out, was to bring himself into an attitude of prayer; and silently he offered up thanks to God for His mercy. He is doing well.

It is supposed that 200 or 300 of the Dahomians are lying dead on the battle-field, and many have been captured. They are retreating in a compact body, but in great distress. If they had broken in their retreat, scarcely a man or woman could have escaped the Egbas to-day. They are still being pursued, but a large number of the Egbas have returned, worn out by their two days' exertions. I feel also worn out by excitement, and by witnessing and hearing of so much slaughter and cruelty. I am not aware that the Egbas have acted cruelly towards their prisoners.

Wednesday, March 5.

Several persons have returned from the pursuit this morning, bringing the intelligence of a desperate encounter at a town called Ishaga, about fourteen or sixteen miles from this. The Dahomians endeavoured to enter this town, for rest or pillage, but were resisted. The Egbas came up with a strong force at the time, and the Dahomians were again driven, and, I understand, divided. It is said that a part of the personal luggage and provisions of the King fell into their hands, and that he was obliged to fly on foot. The number slain in this battle was more, they say, than those before Abbeokuta. The Egbas could not make captives in this battle: even when disarmed, they (the Dahomians) fought and refused to surrender, and they were killed.

I am sorry to report that one of Mr. Crowther's communicants is

missing, but he may yet be found. In order to find him, if he were among the slain, Mr. C. passed over the greater part of the battle-field, and his report of the number slain is such as to give a greater number. He says they are lying in fours and fives, in various directions, over a large extent of ground. The length of wall attacked was upwards of a mile.

I sent two persons out this morning to count the slain Dahomians: one counted them in tens, and the other wrote the number down—and, to our surprise, it amounts to 1209. It confirms the report brought to us by a deserter, an Egba man who had long been a Dahomian slave, that the Dahomians, when gathered together at night, were struck dumb at the loss they had sustained, especially of their female soldiers, and only one thing was uttered by all—viz., a fear that they would never be able to return home.

This is a slave war, and we might justly ask, For what were all these slain? To supply the slave-market with slaves! would be a just reply. The people everywhere here seem to ascribe their deliverance to God and the white men. I hope the Dahomian King will learn a lesson from this, and cease from these barbarous wars, for which not the shadow of a cause was given by the Egbas, nor, I suppose, by most of the other towns that he has warred against. It is to be hoped that the Egbas will not become too boastful of their victory, and be led into excesses. I fear it, but it is a satisfaction to know that our gracious Saviour and God is over us, to protect from moral as well physical evils, and will not suffer His cause to be uprooted.

I hope you will excuse this hasty letter, but I could not let an opportunity slip, or the probability of one, knowing that you would be anxious on our account, more especially as false rumours may reach you by other channels than those available to us. With much thankfulness to God, and desire for your prayers and sympathy for this unhappy country,

I remain, &c.

(Signed) H. TOWNSEND.

P.S.—I can form no estimate of the number of prisoners, or of the Dahomian army. I asked a captive how many retired with the King, when they felt themselves defeated, to be out of danger. He said 200. I asked again, How many were there in the army? He said that even as it was impossible for me to count the people of Abbeokuta, so was it for me to count their army.

The Dahomian captives are desperate: there are three several instances of their rising against their captors and slaying them in their own houses—one when he was in the act of giving his captive food. The people treat their prisoners kindly, but I fear all these will be killed, unless we can prevent it by any means. I was with Sagbua this morning, and the subject was discussed. I protested against it. A meeting was proposed, and I told him that they ought not to have a meeting without calling me to it. The prisoners are, however, private property, and this may hinder their being killed. I feel assured that the Egbas would exchange a captive for an Egba slave now in the Dahomian Country.

March 6, 1851.

No. 38.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 23.)

(Extract.)

Clarence, Fernando Po, April 19, 1851.

ON Sunday the 30th March I went on board of the "Centaur" and was kindly received by the Commodore, and was glad to see Mr. Fraser. We had a conference relative to blockading Whydah, after the King of Dahomey's slight of Her Majesty's Government's advice and counsel, as well as of the letter sent to him by Commodore Fanshawe. As a proof of the fallacy of what the Viceroy of Whydah stated to Lieutenant Steele, Royal Marine Artillery, and Lieutenant Dew, of Her Majesty's

steamer "Gladiator," who were sent on shore for an answer to a certain letter sent relative to the King of Dahomey's proceedings against the Abbeokutians, I have to observe that it was at the latter end of February that he positively declared to the said officers, that Guezo had not the most distant intention of attacking the Egbas; whereas at the same time he was *en route*; for it was on the 2nd and 3rd of March he was defeated with great slaughter, and 2000 prisoners captured. Coercive measures are the only means to tame or conquer his marauding propensities. It is reported that he is wounded in the knee. I stated that I should not advise a blockade immediately. Watch the Dahomians' movements, and at the same time communicate with Her Majesty's Government; for it must be done soon, and other matters with Lagos will complete that part of the coast, and annihilate the abominable Traffic. The Commodore said that a Vice-Consul had been appointed and was on the spot, and had been ordered to communicate with the King of Dahomey; it was therefore decided that he should decline the blockade at present.

No. 39.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 23.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, June 2, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to communicate for the information of your Lordship, that I arrived here on the 12th of April, accompanied by Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser, in Her Majesty's steamer "Gladiator."

I have deemed it fit, in accordance of your directions, to retain Vice-Consul Fraser here for a short period, considering it most advisable, for the welfare of himself and the good of Her Majesty's Government, under the present existing circumstances of the defeat of Guezo, King of the Dahomians, by the Egbas, under the walls of Abbeokuta. He is seeking anxiously for revenge, and has an awful antipathy to the English Church missionaries, and myself, no doubt, for the advice and aid rendered to the Abbeokutians, for he was made perfectly acquainted with my visit. No doubt, hosts of his Amazons fell under their influence. It was reported at Badagry that he had halted at a town two days' march from the latter place, waiting for reinforcements. They are much alarmed at Badagry that he may in his disappointment make an attack upon it rather than venture the second on the Egbas.

I presume by this time he will have returned to Camioh, ten miles from Abomey, with not the same success as he had last year at Attahpam. I am in daily expectation of the arrival of one of Her Majesty's vessels, when I trust to learn that the wars have ceased for this season, and that his body and mind will require repose; it will then be a suitable period for Vice-Consul Fraser to proceed to his duties at Whydah. I am quite certain that the slave-dealers there will be very much discomfited and clamorous against any public officer being stationed there, they knowing too well the feelings Her Majesty's Government have towards Abbeokuta.

I trust, my Lord, the reasons I have given for my wishing Vice-Consul Fraser's remaining here for a short time will meet with your Lordship's approbation.

I inclose for your Lordship's information a copy of letters dated respectively the 18th and 20th of March last, which have been addressed to me by the Rev. Mr. Townsend and the Rev. Mr. Gollmer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

The Rev. H. Townsend to Consul Beecroft.

My dear Sir,

Abbeokuta, March 20, 1851.

I AM quite sure you will be delighted to hear that Guezo, the renowned King of Dahomey, came, saw, and was conquered without any sort of doubt. He received what he richly deserved—a complete defeat; a large number of his Amazons and others lie dead in the field between the wall, where you crossed the river, as witnesses to the fact. He came upon us on the 3rd instant, and charged the Egbas vigorously at the ford, and drove them back to the wall; but here they met such a deadly discharge, that they were glad not to put their hands to the wall. The Dahomians extended themselves, evidently seeking a weak point of attack, but the Egba fire met them everywhere. After a while, and when the Egbas had ocular proofs of the fact that the Dahomians were vulnerable like themselves, they became the assailants in time, and drove the Dahomians to the ford. Night came on and the Dahomians encamped, but they had a very uncomfortable night of it, the Egbas harassed them so, and they decamped very early, and the Egbas pursued them. Guezo, however, when he found that his Amazons were unable to enter the town, withdrew to a distance with his body guard, fearing his person would be endangered so near the Egbas.

At a town called Ishaga, the Dahomians stopped (about 14 miles from this) and thought to make a little amends for their loss; but just at the right time the Egbas came up, headed by Shokeno and Shumoi, and they had another battle, and Guezo's army was again beaten with great slaughter.

It is said that more were killed than before the wall here the day before.

I sent people to count the dead Dahomians before the wall; they counted 1209, and then a large piece of the battle-field remained to be counted. I could not send them back, the smell arising from so many bodies overpowered. We suppose that not less than 1800 were slain on the first day's fight of Dahomians alone; how many Egbas I don't know; they moved their dead for the most part immediately that they fell. Guezo's army killed about 50 persons that they caught on the road hither—men, women, and children,—the night after the battle, and left their tender trunks with their hands tied together on the ground where they encamped; they thought to carry the heads away as tokens of victory, but they had to cast them away afterwards to help themselves to escape. Bowen was on the wall when the first attack was made. Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Townsend, and myself, with a Mr. Hinderer, saw the battle from a rock close to our house, and glad we were when we saw the Dahomians turned back.

The Egbas have many prisoners, and savages they are. They have committed several murders in the town, and I had great fears at one time that the Egbas would massacre the entire lot for it, but I went to them and begged them to tie them well, and not to kill them.

Some of the worst have been put to death.

Some of Possu of Badagry's people were in the Dahomian army; the Egbas caught one; and I hear they sent him to his master with a very polite message, to the effect that they were sorry to find him in such company, and they could not henceforth mistake the character of Possu's pretended friendship. Kosoko is in it too, and the Egbas have in consequence stopped all traffic between this and Lagos. Kosoko was greatly mistaken; he thought his allies the Dahomians must, as a matter of course, be victorious, and no sooner did he hear that they were here, than he fired salutes in honour of their expected victory, and ordered that all fugitive Egbas should be caught. Akitoye will rejoice at this news. A letter from him was read to the chiefs here a few days ago, and they were glad to hear of his welfare.

I think the friendship of Guezo for the English is not worth much; he did not heed you, nor the Commodore's letter, nor Lord Palmerston's, not even to give his army a caution to respect the lives of British subjects.

We have been told by two of the captives, that no mention was made about us whatever other than this. We have not heard from any quarter.

The bullets were very useful, and were very thankfully received by the chiefs. The white people received the public thanks of the town for their assistance, and you have been often mentioned with thanks for having given them correct information and good advice.

We cannot but regard this victory as a great mercy from our God; had Guezo been victorious, the least we should have had would have been to be driven from our homes, and all our efforts for the good of the people and country spoilt; but the Lord in his goodness did not permit it.

We cannot ascertain how many there were in the Dahomian army; some say 10,000 and 20,000; at any rate, there were as many as he could scrape together. The muskets taken by the Egbas are very many, and swords also. All the muskets I have seen are marked Tower, G.R.

I have written to the Commodore.

With our kind regard, &c.

(Signed)

H. TOWNSEND.

Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

The Rev. C. A. Gollmer to Consul Beecroft.

My dear Sir,

Badagry, March 18, 1851.

MR. TOWNSEND, who hopes soon to be able to write to you, requested me to inform you of the defeat of the Dahomians before the walls of Abbeokuta.

Since your communication respecting the intention of the King of Dahomey to invade and destroy Abbeokuta, the Dahomians were again and again said to come, and the Abbeokuta people were on the alert, keeping watch in all directions, till at last, on Saturday the 1st of March, information was received from some of the neighbouring villages, that the Dahomians were truly approaching.

On Sunday, the 2nd, a party of about eighty men fell upon their outposts about ten miles from Abbeokuta, in the neighbourhood of Awiyadee; these fired their muskets at them, but the Dahomians made no reply. On Monday morning the Dahomians approached, and about 1000 Abbeokuta men went out to meet them. The battle began as soon as they met; but the Dahomians being very numerous (probably 20,000—Mr. Smith says they came in as thick as bees), drove the Abbeokuta people before them. This attack and retreat on the part of the Abbeokuta people was designed to draw the Dahomians close to their main force, and to bring all their strength to bear upon them. The chiefs with their men (the main body) took their respective posts behind the walls on Sunday, and were all ready to receive the Dahomians, as they stretched themselves for about a mile along the wall outside, and a dreadful fire was opened on both sides, and kept up for some time.

But the Abbeokuta people, burning within themselves in defence of their town, considered the firing of muskets too slow a process to kill their enemies, and in a mass rushed outside their walls, through several gates at the same time, and with their swords cut their enemies down right and left. Mr. Bowen, formerly a military man, says, never did he see such fighting: the Dahomians fought most bravely, and the Abbeokutians stood firm like a rock. The battle was hot, and the slaughter great; and night only prevented the Abbeokutians from entirely destroying the Dahomian army, and giving the survivors a chance to escape. The Abbeokutians prepared to renew the battle in the morning, but finding they had fled, they pursued them as far as Ishaga, a large village about fourteen miles westward from Abbeokuta, where they met them in the act of

attacking the town, no doubt to rest a little, and to carry off the inhabitants. The Ishaga people, however, when seeing the Abbeokutians approach, resisted the attack, and a fierce battle ensued. The Dahomians fought most desperately to maintain their post, but they were driven with a still greater loss than at Abbeokuta. The Ishaga people, being expert bowmen, picked them up in great numbers; the King himself had to flee, leaving hammock, canteen, and lots of things behind him. The fleeing enemy was pursued by the Abbeokuta and Ishaga people, and many others, driven beyond the water, more than two days' journey from Abbeokuta.

It is impossible to say how many Dahomians fell—probably more than 3000, and nearly 2000 were made prisoners. Mr. Townsend sent two men to count the Dahomian dead bodies close to the wall at Abbeokuta, and the men counted 1209; they fell sick, and could count no more. The prisoners are desperate; three have killed their captors. No doubt all the prisoners will be killed. The Abbeokutians sustained, of course, a great loss; many died, but comparatively considerably less than the Dahomians.

Now what do you say to this? and what will the Commodore and Lord Palmerston say to this sad affair? The King of Dahomey cares apparently for neither; he ought to be made to feel, if he will not believe and obey. I hope he will be called to account. And again, will you believe that Kosoko, the usurper at Lagos, is at the bottom of this Dahomian war? The prisoners have proved, beyond a doubt, that Kosoko urged Dahomey, and assisted with men and means to destroy Abbeokuta, to drive the white English there and here, in order that Dahomey at Whydah and Kosoko at Lagos, may be able to sell their slaves. At present, and so long as these white English live in the country, they will not be able to do so. This determined the Abbeokuta people to pass a law not to sell one Dahomian either to Lagos or Badagry, or anywhere else, and to shut the Lagos road so long as Kosoko remains there. Aki-boyau, the head trader and head persecutor, quite turns against Kosoko now. He sent me a message to say, with a thousand thanks, how grateful the Abbeokutian people feel to you especially, you cannot imagine. I am sure they would worship you as their god—or more than many of their gods—if you were to be among them; however, if you do come in the autumn, you will see for yourself.

Respecting Badagry I could say much, but I must be brief. Akitoye's going away created a great sensation in our town and neighbourhood; the chiefs came the following morning to get an explanation, which opportunity I embraced to give them a reprimand for their inattention paid to you, by their not coming to the meeting as requested, and said that if they had come, you would have told them many things, also something about Akitoye, &c. As I observed there was some apprehension that Akitoye would bring war upon them, I satisfied them on that point.

Many were the reports what you did when passing Lagos; but I cannot enter into these; suffice it to say that Lagos was greatly confused; some people ran away. Many rejoiced, also some of the chiefs there, to hear their master was coming home, *i. e.*, Akitoye. But Kosoko with his party prepared to escape, putting his property in canoes at night, and sending it back to the house in the morning.

Respecting the Iso matter, I beg to say that your messenger was detained by the King of Porto Novo, and did not arrive before late at night. Your message and identifier, *i. e.*, your ring, I intrusted to Lieutenant Graham, of Her Majesty's ship "Prometheus," whom Mr. Batten called on shore for our protection. Lieutenant Graham has promised to forward it you, and write a line to say how he found us.

The King of Porto Novo sent a haughty message, being offended at the charge to entertain a desire to make war upon this town. He declared that his sending so many canoes was to protect the goods Kosoko may send him, &c. After mature consideration, we thought the best would be to let them quietly pass, and recommended accordingly Akitoye and Mayen people to be quiet.

But nearly three whole days I spent with this serious palaver. Akitoye's and Mayen's men insisted upon fighting the Isos; and the Popos here declared that they will fight them—Akitoye and Mayen—if they do fire a single gun at the Isos.

The matter grew worse: the women and children and property were removed to other towns, and the villagers called in to assist the battle. Everything was ready to kill and destroy; but God assisted us, and at the last hour, Mayen, to whom I sent a message that if he does insist upon fighting, cannot consider himself my friend any longer, gave in; peace was proclaimed, and not an hour after, the Isos came in about 100 canoes, containing about 400 well-armed men; they remained for a short time, went on to Lagos quickly, remained there twenty days, during which time they suffered from small-pox and drunkenness, and returned home quickly.

I have endeavoured to reconcile these two parties, but have not succeeded as yet; great animosity prevails in their breasts. The chiefs here have sent their messengers to Kosoko, and many go there regularly. Kosoko's messenger was here yesterday, but I could not show them much regard, knowing what great enemy he is to us.

Akitoye's letter to Mayen and his people created great joy. I beg to inclose one of Mayen's to Akitoye, which have the goodness to hand him over with my respects. I ought to say that Kosoko is making preparation to be taken in here, should he be forced from Lagos. I need not say how dangerous this would be for us. Possu has also expressed himself to fight in Kosoko's behalf, should he be driven out from Lagos, *i. e.*, to fight Akitoye's people here; no doubt we should be protected here from the violence of the slave-traders and their parties, if Akitoye is placed at Lagos.

Mayen and Akitoye's people also request that they will be taken under your protection previous to operation; however, you and Her Majesty's officers will know how to act.

Domingo is very sanguine, and rejoices in the proposal to see Akitoye back at Lagos. He said to poor Mr. Van Cooten the last week, that the English ought to have put Akitoye there one time, and two boats would do it in an hour without much trouble; that there are only a parcel of outlaws, and international law could not be brought in consideration at all.

With much respect, &c.

(Signed) C. A. GOLLMER.

No. 40.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, September 10, 1851.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, the copy of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated 3rd July, and its inclosures, respecting the instructions to Commander Wilmot, of Her Majesty's ship "Harlequin," to accompany Mr. Beecroft to the town of Abomey, &c.; and I am to request that the said inclosures may be returned as soon as done with, when copies of such as are required for his Lordship's information will be forwarded.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 40.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir.

"Penelope," Ascension, July 3, 1851.

I REQUEST you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the accompanying extract of a letter of proceedings from Commander J. N. Strange, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Archer," with its inclosure, being a communication from Guezo, the King of Dahomey.

2. Their Lordships will observe from the report of Commander Strange, which is confirmed by all the information I have received on the subject, that the war between the Dahomians and the Yoruba tribes has been most disastrous to the former. I have therefore deemed it right to entertain the King's request for an officer to be sent to him, because I think it is not improbable that he may now agree to an anti-Slave Trade Treaty with Great Britain; and I have accordingly directed Commander A. P. E. Wilmot, of the "Harlequin," to accompany Mr. Beecroft, Her Majesty's Consul in the Biglis of Benin and Biafra, to the town of Abomey, and enter into a negotiation on the terms laid down in Viscount Palmerston's despatch to Mr. Beecroft dated February 25, 1850.

3. I also inclose copies of my letters to King Guezo, Captain Jones, Commander Wilmot, and Mr. Beecroft, and the several documents referred to in those letters.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 40.

Commander Strange to Commodore Fanshawe.

(Extract.)

"Archer," Ascension, June 25, 1851.

WITH regard to the Dahomey war, I am informed by Mr. Gollmer, that there appears to be no immediate prospect of a renewal of hostilities, and that the estimated loss of the King of Dahomey is 16,000 killed and taken prisoners. Domingo Martinez has been employed lately in purchasing the prisoners from both parties, professedly for the purpose of effecting exchanges and bringing about peace.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of a document (the original of which was received by Commander Patey, and is now in Captain Jones' hands) in which the King of Dahomey expresses a wish that Her Majesty would send some person to hold a palaver with him. The Vice-Consul had not arrived at Whydah, and I had no opportunity of sending the document to Mr. Beecroft.

Inclosure 3 in No. 40.

The King of Dahomey to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

To Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of England, Defender of the Faith, &c.

THE King of Dahomey sends his compliments to Her Majesty, greeting, and wishes she would send him, as he expresses it, a soldier with a good head to hear some palaver from his mouth at the town of Abomey, so that he may report the same to Her Majesty.

For GUEZO,

King of the Country of Dahomey.

(Signed)

GEORGE PRIOR,

Given through Madaki, as interpreter.

(Signed)

EDWARD DENNIS, Witness.

Inclosure 4 in No. 40.

Commodore Bruce to the King of Dahomey.

"Penelope," June 28, 1851.

To His Majesty Guezo, King of the Country of Dahomey, &c.

AS the Commander-in-chief of the Fleet of Her Majesty the Queen of England in these seas, I have received your Majesty's note, wherein you request that a soldier with a good head may be sent to hear some palaver from your mouth at the town of Abomey; and in compliance with your desire, I have made arrangements for John Beecroft, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul, and Commander A. P. E. Wilmot, of the ship of war "Harlequin," to visit you and learn your wishes.

Your Majesty will remember, that some time since, the former gentleman, accompanied by Lieutenant Forbes, had several interviews with you at Abomey; and, amongst other things, pointed out that the Slave Trade would be done away with before long. Notwithstanding this, your Majesty declined to assist the Queen of England in the immediate suppression of that cruel Traffic, by signing a Treaty to this effect: late events will have proved to you the truth of their assertion. You must know that the Traffic in question is all but annihilated, in consequence of the vigorous measures adopted by the English and other civilized Governments, and which measures will never be relaxed until the object for which they were commenced has been effected. I trust that a few months' reflection has convinced your Majesty that your true and permanent interests are identical with the establishment of legal commerce; and that the liberal allowance which the Queen of England would make to you for a series of years, combined with that commerce, is better worth your consideration than the uncertain and decreasing revenue you may derive from foreign slave-dealers.

I hope to hear of peace having been concluded between your Majesty and the people of Abbeokuta. And I must take this opportunity of reminding you of the tenor of the note addressed to you by Commodore Fanshawe (who has returned to England), that the Queen my Sovereign would be very much displeased with, and would certainly punish, any one who molested the persons or violated the property of any of her subjects located in your Majesty's dominions or elsewhere.

I recommend to your Majesty's especial care the distinguished gentlemen who are the bearers of this despatch: one of them you know already, as a person of high rank and consideration in the civil service of the Queen of England; the other is a distinguished officer in command of a ship of war. I am confident you will communicate freely with them, and extend to them that friendship and hospitality for which your Majesty is so much esteemed.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) HENRY W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 40.

Commodore Bruce to Captain Jones.

Sir,

"Penelope," Ascension, June 28, 1851.

I DESIRE you will forward the inclosed despatch (which is left unsealed for your information) to Commander A. P. E. Wilmot, of Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin."

You will, if possible, make arrangements for Commander Wilmot meeting Mr. Beecroft at Lagos, to which place the latter gentleman is ordered to proceed, as mentioned in my letter to you dated the 31st of May last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 40.

Commodore Bruce to Commander Wilmot.

Sir,

"Penelope," Ascension, June 28, 1851.

YOU are probably aware that it has long been the desire of Her Majesty's Government to enter into a Treaty with the King of Dahomey for the suppression of the foreign Slave Trade, which is carried on to a great extent in his dominions; and that, with this view, Mr. Consul Beecroft, and Lieutenant Forbes of the "Bonetta," were dispatched to the town of Abomey in May 1850. They, however, failed in the object of their mission, the King urging, that from the Slave Trade alone could he expect to receive a certain and sufficient revenue for the requirements of his kingdom. Since that period the condition of Dahomey has materially changed: a disastrous war with the neighbouring tribes in the Yoruba Country, and the virtual cessation of the Traffic, on which the King depended for support, must have impoverished the chiefs and humbled their spirits. It would therefore appear to be a desirable moment for us to renew our efforts to induce the King to engage never again to permit slaves to be exported from his territory to countries beyond the sea.

2. It happened, very opportunely, that I have received a paper from the King of Dahomey, in which he expressed a wish that Her Majesty would send to him "a soldier with a good head to hear some palaver." It may be that the King's object is merely to have some influential mediator between him and the people of Yoruba; but, at all events, advantage may be taken of his request to further the views of Her Majesty's Government, which, as well as the extinction of the Slave Trade, desires the termination of a war that involves the personal security of the British residents, missionaries, and others located at Abbeokuta and in its vicinity.

3. Having entire confidence in your zeal and judgment, and hearing that you are desirous of undertaking the expedition, I have selected you to perform the important service of proceeding, in company with Mr. Beecroft, to the town of Abomey, where you will find the King of Dahomey, and deliver to him the inclosed letter.

4. On being introduced to the King, you will acquaint him that I, as the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Fleet in these seas, have received his note, requesting that an officer may be sent to him "to hear some palaver;" that I have acceded to his request, because, notwithstanding his former refusal to enter into a treaty, and thereby declining, as it were, the friendship of the Queen of England, I believe that Her Majesty would be graciously pleased to forgive what has passed on hearing that he (the King) now entertains the propositions of her Government with respect to the Slave Trade.

5. The despatch from the Right Honourable Viscount Palmerston to John Beecroft, Esquire (a copy of which is annexed, for your information and guidance), dated the 25th February, 1850, will furnish you with arguments proper to be used in your interviews with the King; I can add nothing to them beyond what is suggested from the different aspect of affairs in Dahomey since that despatch was written. I desire you to make known to the King, that the British Government is fully determined to stop the Traffic in Slaves, and that good policy alone should induce him to assist in this object, as there is no doubt, in a very short time, it will be accomplished without his assistance. You will acquaint him that the ships of England are blockading the coasts of the countries to which his slaves are exported; that the rulers of those countries are resolved to prevent the people from continuing to bring over slaves; that the dealers are expelled and ruined; that all civilized Governments are now ranged on our side; and that in a few months the Slave Trade must cease for ever. In support of this it would be well to draw his attention to the diminution in the Traffic of late; and, in conclusion, put it to him, whether a liberal and certain stipend from Great Britain, for three years, in addition to the revenue which he might obtain from the productions of

his rich country and the establishment of legal commerce, would not be more advantageous to him, than obstinately clinging to a course which will ultimately leave him in poverty, and without a friend.

6. With regard to the war between Dahomey and the Yoruba tribes, you will, if requested to do so by the King, use your influence to bring about a peace, more particularly if the Dahomians should agree to an anti-Slave Trade Treaty, or are likely to get the better of the struggle in the end; but if, on the contrary, they should refuse to negotiate on the terms proposed, and you think it probable that the Yoruba tribes will conquer, you will acquaint the King that you are not authorized to interfere against the interests of those people, because they are assisting us in the suppression of the Slave Trade. In either case you will make the King distinctly understand, that if any British subjects suffer in life or property through his measures, the Queen of England will hold him responsible.

7. I need scarcely remind you, that in order to insure the success of your mission, it is necessary that the most cordial understanding should exist between you and your colleague, Mr. Beecroft. You will find him to be a very intelligent gentleman, possessing great local knowledge, and having considerable influence with the native chiefs and people. I request you will attend to such suggestions as he, in his position as Her Majesty's Consul and Diplomatic Agent, may make to you. You will communicate these instructions to him, and I shall request him to make you acquainted with the tenor of the despatches and orders he may have received from the Queen's Government with respect to Dahomey.

8. As soon as you are joined by Mr. Beecroft, and he is ready to accompany you, you will proceed in execution of this service, and make a full report to me of every particular connected with it as early as possible after your return to the "Harlequin."

9. Many weeks may have transpired since Guezo's note was written, and much time may elapse before Mr. Beecroft is able to reach Whydah; in the interim, the political condition of Dahomey will perhaps have changed; I have therefore left it to his judgment whether or not to accede to the King's request, and you are to be governed by his decision in this respect.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE

Inclosure 7 in No. 40.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft, February 25, 1850.

[See No. 3.]

Inclosure 8 in No. 40.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey, May 29, 1849.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 3.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 40.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey, May 29, 1849.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 3.]

Inclosure 10 in No. 40.

The King of Dahomey to Viscount Palmerston.

Abomey, September 7, 1849.

I, GUEZO, King of Dahomey, beg to return my sincere thanks to the Queen of England and Lord Palmerston, for presents sent to me by them, through Mr. Duncan. I beg also to thank Lord Palmerston for his good advice respecting the trade of this country, and I do assure Lord Palmerston that the earliest opportunity will be taken of consulting my

Cabooccers on the subject, and at the next annual Custom held here, Mr. Duncan shall be made acquainted with our decision. I have always a strong desire to cultivate a friendship with the people of England, and to establish and increase a trade with that country. Englishmen were my father's best friends, and he always told me respect Englishmen, and look upon them in my heart as sincere in their promises and friendship. An Englishman's heart is big, like a large calabash (gourd) that overflows with palm-wine for those who are thirsty. I know that the Portuguese and Spaniards care nothing for me, their friendship and presents are all to serve their own purpose of obtaining slaves, upon which they themselves derive the principal profit. I beg to thank Lord Palmerston for appointing my friend Mr. Duncan, Vice-Consul for my country; and I promise to protect and assist him in performing the duties for which you have placed him here, and shall afford him the same protection when passing through my country, as I did on his last journey in my dominions. I have broken the Dassa Country, whose people went to war against Mr. Duncan when passing their country. I hold their chief a captive ever since ten moons after Mr. Duncan's visit to their country, and have kept him in my house, that Mr. Duncan might see his enemies in captivity before he die. He has now seen him, and my heart rejoiceth; and so shall fall every one who shall molest an Englishman while under my protection.

I am much pleased with the proposal of cultivating cotton in my country, and have already planted the seeds given to me by Mr. Duncan. Mayo has also planted some. I beg to assure the Queen of England, and also Lord Palmerston, of my sincere friendship and gratitude.

Signed (Mayo holding the top of the pen) on behalf of Guezo, King of Dahomey,

(Signed) MAYO LADYETTO, *Prime Minister.*

[Read over three times, at the request of the King.]

Inclosure 11 in No. 40.

Treaty to be proposed to the King of Dahomey.

[See Inclosure 20 in No. 3.]

Inclosure 12 in No. 40.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft, February 25, 1850.

[See No. 5.]

Inclosure 13 in No. 40.

Viscount Palmerston to the King of Dahomey, February 25, 1850.

[See Inclosure in No 5.]

Inclosure 14 in No. 40.

Commodore Bruce to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

"Penelope," *Ascension, June 28, 1851.*

I DO myself the honour to inclose a copy of a communication transmitted to me from Guezo, King of Dahomey, by which you will perceive that he is anxious for an interview with a British officer.

2. It appears to me that the reverses this chief has met with in the war between him and the Yoruba tribes, added to the diminution, I may almost say complete cessation, of Slave Trade on the sea-coast of his dominions, may be taken advantage of by us to urge on him the expediency of entering into an anti-Slave Trade Treaty with Great Britain, according to the form supplied to you by the Right Honourable Viscount Palmerston,

and on the conditions expressed in his Lordship's despatch dated the 25th of February, 1850.

3. I am of opinion that as soon as you have completed the service at Lagos, which forms the subject of my letter dated the 31st of May last, you would do well to proceed to the town of Abomey, and renew an intercourse with King Guezo, with a view to induce him to negotiate on the terms proposed when you last visited his capital.

4. On the supposition that you will undertake this duty, I have directed Commander A. P. E. Wilmot, of Her Majesty's ship "Harlequin," to place himself in communication with you, and accompany you to Abomey. A copy of my instructions to him I inclose herewith for your information.

5. Many weeks may have transpired since Guezo's note was written, and much time may elapse before you are able to reach Whydah; in the interim, the political condition of Dahomey may have changed; I must therefore leave it to your judgment whether or not to accede to the King's request, and Commander Wilmot will be governed by your decision.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

No. 41.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, September 10, 1851.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Viscount Palmerston the copy of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated 31st July last, with its inclosures, relating to an attack lately made on Badagry by the people of Lagos, and to request that the said inclosures may be returned as soon as possible, when copies will be forwarded.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 41.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," Prince's Island, July 31, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of correspondence relating to an attack lately made on Badagry by the people of Lagos.

2. Independent of the desire which I entertain of carrying out the instructions of Her Majesty's Government to protect the missionaries and other British subjects residing at the former place, I should be glad of an opportunity to punish the present King and chiefs of Lagos, who pertinaciously adhere to the Slave Trade, and resist all our efforts to induce them to enter into a Treaty for the abolition of the same; but in the present instance, as far as matters have yet gone, I think their Lordships will see that the quarrel between Badagry and Lagos is purely of a domestic nature, and not one which warrants a neutral Power to interfere in a hostile manner. If, for instance, the murder of Gee and the Krooman in the employ of Mr. Batten, had been proved to have been committed by Lagos people, I should, failing in obtaining redress, have deemed it my duty to attack the town and blockade the coast; but the evidence necessary to authorize such proceedings is not sufficiently clear; and indeed, from the statements of Captain Jones and Commander Heath, I am inclined to believe that it was the work of some men belonging to Badagry.

3. I trust their Lordships will approve of Commander Heath having declined to accede to the request of the British residents at Badagry to land an armed force there from Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Niger." In

the first place, the climate, particularly at this season, is most destructive to the lives of Europeans; in the next, the number of men he could have landed would have been so few, in proportion to the number they might have been called upon to engage, that the issue would have been doubtful; added to which, no provisions could be obtained from the shore, and the surf frequently prevents all communication with ships.

4. To insure the protection of British life and property, I have directed Captain Jones, the senior officer in the Bights Division, to continue to keep a vessel of war stationed off Badagry, with instructions for her commander to communicate with the missionaries and others as frequently as the state of the beach will admit; and on their requesting it, to receive them on board, with as much of their property as can possibly be got off; and should a case come to his knowledge where British life has been wantonly sacrificed, or British property wilfully destroyed by either of the contending parties, to acquaint me with the particulars forthwith, and in the meantime to take such defensive measures as the circumstances may appear to require.

5. I have also written letters to the King of Lagos and the Chief of Porto Novo, warning them against molesting British subjects, copies of which accompany this despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 41.

Captain Jones to Commodore Bruce.

(Extract.)

"Sampson," June 30, 1851.

THURSDAY, 19th June. Rainy and squally. At noon made out the "Niger" at Badagry, and a French steamer to the westward, running before the wind. At 2, anchored in $7\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms off Badagry, close to "Niger." Commander Heath came on board and put me in possession of the correspondence between him and the British residents at Badagry, which I have the honour to forward herewith, together with a copy of a letter from myself to the British residents, as also of one to the Chief of Lagos. You will perceive from my letter, that I approved of Commander Heath's proceedings and of his declining to land an armed force, unless a better defined object presented itself than that represented.

In my letter to the Chief of Lagos, I carefully avoided using anything like a threat, or saying a word to irritate; but whenever it may become requisite to use coercive measures, I have no doubt but means could be found to make him feel our power.

During the whole of Friday 20th, I remained at anchor with the signal up requesting to communicate with the shore, but no boat came off. Mr. Batten answered with Marryat's signals our enquiries, by saying "No news." All business for the present is stopped, the canoe-men having left the place to get food.

The trade at Badagry is very much in the hands of the English. There are now two barques and two schooners landing cargoes and shipping palm-oil.

The master of one of the schooners, the "Sea-Bird," was at the town during the late row and present; he stated that it was entirely a naval affair, and that the few things destroyed belonging to the English was purely accidental.

Inclosure 3 in No. 41.

Captain Jones to Commodore Bruce.

(Extract.)

"Sampson," July 29, 1851.

ANCHORED off Badagry. Commander Heath immediately came on board. His letters together with that and inclosures which I found from Commander Wilmot, will put you fully in possession of the distressed and

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melancholy state of Badagry; business being entirely stopped and life unsafe. I also send copies of a letter from Obba Shoron and from the British residents at Badagry to me, and my replies.

The residents still desire an armed force to protect them, but I have not felt it my duty to accede to the request; it would not be of any permanent benefit to them, and we have not sufficient command of the communication to get the men off and on with facility; and the lamentable death of Mr. Duffus, the assistant surgeon of the "Niger," and the very narrow escape of Commander Heath, is positive proof of this. The fact of the man Gee, a carpenter in the employ of Mr. Batten, and of the Kroo boy, having been shot on the beach, are melancholy instances of the disturbed state of the country; but it is very uncertain who were the perpetrators,—they may have been from Lagos, or not.

Inclosure 4 in No. 41.

Captain Jones to the British Residents at Badagry.

Gentlemen,

"Sampson," June 20, 1851.

I HAVE received from Commander Heath, of Her Majesty's ship "Niger," a copy of the correspondence addressed to him, and his replies, on the subject of landing an armed party to protect yourselves and property; and I will at once state, that under existing circumstances, I quite approve of the measures proposed by Commander Heath, and of his having declined to land any part of his ship's company, and station them more than a mile inland for an indefinite period, upon an imaginary expectation of an attack, and when the forces in possession of the town have shown themselves strong enough to defeat the opposite party.

2. The officers of Her Majesty's Navy feel that they cannot be more usefully employed than in the protection of the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects, wherever located, and in promoting the trade and commerce of the British dominions; but it would be very questionable utility were they upon all occasions when applied to, to consent to take a one-sided part between hostile belligerents, without very clearly, as in the present case, knowing the one party from the other.

3. It is, however, satisfactory to find that British property has not hitherto been molested, and it is to be hoped that a neutral line of conduct between the contending parties will preserve for Her Majesty's subjects security to life and property.

4. But should the contrary be the case, and the nationality of the offending parties be attested, I will immediately, as Senior Officer on the spot, demand from the chief of the offending tribe, full retribution and compensation for any injury, loss, and sufferings, that any British subjects may have been exposed to.

5. The position of Mr. Batten's house secures for him the protection of our guns, and we can with facility dislodge any enemy advancing to molest his property, but the position of the houses of the other merchants who have signed the requisition for an armed protection, being on the other side of the lagoon, is not sufficiently defined to be sure of hitting an enemy without risk to a friend.

6. I am far from wishing to convey to the British merchants that cases might not arise which would call for our active interference by landing an armed force; but that case must be clearly defined; and whenever we land, a large number of canoes suitable for passing the surf, must be supplied and placed at our disposal.

7. In the course of the correspondence which has passed between the gentlemen whom I now address and Commander Heath, my attention was painfully arrested by the last paragraph of the letter dated June 18, 1851, in which allusion is made to the disregard of health, when in pursuit of slavers: I must most strongly protest against the expression contained in that paragraph, and I have desired Commander Heath to return the letter to you for re-consideration, for whether true or not true, the subject is altogether irrelative to the application, and not calculated to promote that

good will and mutual inclination to serve each other beneficially, which ought to be the ruling principle of all Her Majesty's subjects.

8. My duty calls me to another part of the station, but I shall return shortly to inquire after your welfare, and in the meantime feel assured that your interests will be well secured under the protection of Commander Heath.

(Signed) LEWIS T. JONES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 41.

The Residents at Badagry to Captain Jones.

Sir,

Badagry, July 11, 1851.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th of June, conveying to us your approval of Commander Heath's non-compliance with our request of landing an armed party for our protection, upon an imaginary expectation of an attack; and also your readiness in a clear case, to interfere, and to demand full retribution for any injury, loss, or suffering that any British subjects may have been exposed to.

In reply we beg to state,—

1. That on the 21st June a large number of canoes came up the river (from the eastward, Popos and Kosoko's people), also a party by land, with a view to attack this place, but were driven back.

2. That on the 22nd a severe conflict took place at Ajido, whither the enemy had retreated, and from which place he was driven and the town destroyed by fire.

3. That on the 23rd a large number of the same canoes came up again, some passing up the river and others returning down; and that those returning to Lagos knocked down and kidnapped, and carried away one of the Kroo boys in the employ of one of the merchants here.

4. That on the night of the 2nd instant, a Mr. Gee, an Englishman, and assistant in Mr. Hutton's factory, also a Krooman, were shot dead on the beach, where they guarded the stores; and it is stated by the boy who escaped, that the foul deed was perpetrated by a party of Lagos people.

5. That on the 7th instant, about 100 large canoes, containing from ten to twenty men each, some armed with swivels, came up from Lagos (Kosoko's people), attempted to land, but were repulsed, and then fired their swivels at the house of one of the merchants.

6. That at this moment the whole force of the enemy is gathered together at Ajido, about ten miles to the east of us (on the maps called Soosoo), preparing for another attack.

7. That the letter you kindly addressed to Kosoko, the usurper at Lagos, and sent to us to forward, we endeavoured to send messengers of a secondary chief of that place, who came here by way of Abbeokuta; but they declined, stating that Kosoko would kill them, were they to deliver such a letter.

You will be able from the above to judge for yourself, whether our expectations were imaginary or not.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

C. A. GOLLMER.
J. G. SANDEMAN.
THOS. DUGGANS.
W. Mc CASKEY.
J. MARTIN.

Inclosure 6 in No. 41.

Captain Jones to the British Residents at Badagry.

Gentlemen,

"Sampson," off Whydah, July 18, 1851.

I HAVE received your letter dated the 11th July, detailing many acts of violence, threatening, and assault upon various parties in the neighbourhood of Badagry; but however much such proceedings may and must be deplored and regretted, I cannot recognize from the description you have given me, that these acts of violence were in any manner directed against the British subjects in a national spirit, but that the deaths which have unfortunately ensued have been merely the accidents incident to a state of civil war, the very perpetrators of these murderous acts being doubtful, and not likely under existing circumstances to be discovered; they may or may not have been from Lagos.

2. I am therefore still of opinion that an armed interference is still uncalled for, however desirous the officers of Her Majesty's Navy may be to meet the wishes, and forward the views, of British subjects, wherever located.

3. I would, in conclusion, strongly recommend the British subjects residing at Badagry to remain neutral, or at any rate, act only on the defensive, and not make themselves parties in a native squabble.

4. Wishing you, gentlemen, better times and a return of tranquillity,

I have, &c.

(Signed) LEWIS T. JONES.

Inclosure 7 in No. 41.

Commander Heath to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

"Niger," Badagry, June 20, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that on the morning of the 14th instant, whilst at anchor off Porto Novo, I received information of a revolution having taken place at Badagry, and of the native town having been burnt down.

I immediately weighed and ran down, and shortly after anchoring, was visited by Mr. Duggan, supercargo of the "Severn," who professed himself perfectly acquainted with the state of affairs, and with the feelings of the missionary (Mr. Gollmer) and the other European residents. He described the fight which had taken place on the 12th instant, as being a purely native quarrel, with which the English had nothing to do, and by which the English were not likely to be injured, except inasmuch as it would stop the trade for a time. A small portion of English property had, he said, been accidentally burnt during the general conflagration of the town. He, however, made an exception in the case of one man named Randolph, a native of Accra, and therefore a British subject, who, he said, had taken so strong a part on the losing side, and had, by firing two guns from his premises, killed so many of the winning party, that they had sworn to take his life, and had burnt and destroyed all his property.

This man Randolph having embarked in safety on board the English barque "Anna Watson," I weighed after dark, and proceeded to windward to give some important information relative to the expected arrival of a Spanish slaver, and returned to this anchorage on the 17th instant.

The letters marked A 1, A 2, and B 1, B 2, passed between the English residents and myself on the 17th instant. At 4 p.m. on the 18th, the English ensigns on shore were all hoisted, union down; I therefore, in accordance with the signal agreed upon, sent boats to the back of the surf, but seeing no indications of any embarkation (the main-top commanded a view of the plain at the back of the beach, and of the front street in the town), I thought it best to land myself and ascertain what was going on. On landing I met a messenger with the letter marked A 3, and I immediately proceeded to the mission-house, and had an interview

with Messrs. Gollmer, Sandeman, Mc Caskey, and Martin. These gentlemen again urged me to land men for their protection, which I again refused, on the ground that there could be no danger to their lives if they would adopt my suggestion of removing either to the beach or to the ships, and that I thought it better there should be a probable loss of some of their property, than a certain loss by fever of a great portion of the men I might land. I also informed them that I was acting in accordance with verbal orders I had received from Commodore Fanshawe. I then inquired if there was any other way except that of landing men, in which I could assist them, and they suggested that a letter to the King of Lagos might perhaps induce him to issue orders that in the event of his people retaking Badagry, English life and property should be secured and respected.

When on the point of returning on board, I heard that a large body of warriors from Abbeokuta were on their march to assist that party which is now dominant, and which has hitherto so carefully respected British property. I am therefore under no apprehension of any danger to the English at present.

It is difficult to unravel all the intricacies of an African quarrel, but from a comparison of the information I have received from various quarters, I have concluded that the following is not far from a true statement of the case.

About six years ago, Akitoye, the King of Lagos, was expelled from his throne by Kosoko, the present King. Akitoye, with his followers, took refuge in Badagry which was then inhabited by a race called Popos. Jealousy and party spirit soon arose, and a feud commenced between Akitoye's followers, and the Popos, who sided with Kosoko. The principal cause of this, as far as I can understand was, that the Popos had been accustomed to have an uninterrupted canoe-communication all along the lagoon from Porto Novo to Lagos, which Akitoye's party, being hostile to Lagos, wished to intercept at Badagry.

On Thursday the 12th instant a large body of Lagos people came up the lagoon and landed at Badagry, visiting and doing business with their friends the Popos. Whilst in the market-place some of them sang songs, the burden of which was abuse and insult to Akitoye. Akitoye's party seized and chained two of the culprits. The Lagos people and Popos flew to arms; the fight commenced, and the town was burnt to the ground. The victory remained completely in the hands of Akitoye's party, whose chief is a respectable man called Mayen.

So much for that which is past. As for the future, it is supposed that the Porto Novo people will endeavour to avenge the defeat of their friends; whilst on the other hand, a large body of Abbeokutians is actually on its march for the defence of the present rulers of Badagry.

There is no doubt that we have not hitherto maintained a strict neutrality between the two parties. Mr. Beecroft, the Consul-General, carried Akitoye as a sort of protégé to Fernando Po, and Mr. Gollmer himself told me in the course of conversation two or three weeks before these disturbances, that Akitoye's people came to him for advice, saying, "Now Akitoye is gone we look to you as our head, he left us to your care when he went;" so that if the tables are turned, and the Popos victorious, our countrymen will no longer be as safe as at present.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. G. HEATH.

Inclosure 8 in No. 41.

The British Residents at Badagry to Captain Foote.

Sir,

Badagry, June 16, 1851.

WE, the undersigned British residents at Badagry, beg to acquaint you that the long-threatened war between the Popos on the one, and Mayen and Akitoye's party on the other side, at length broke out on Thursday

the 12th instant. The former being the first to fire, the latter in self-defence returned it.

The fight took place in the middle of the town, and lasted with but little intermission the whole day, or before dark. The greater part of the Popos were defeated, nearly the whole town burnt down, and much British property destroyed.

At daybreak, Friday morning, the war recommenced close to our premises; but as the principal leader of the Popos fell immediately after, his party hastily retreated, pursued by the victors, and in less than two hours the Popos were driven from the place, and the remainder of the town close to our premises burnt.

We and our places (with the exception of a few damages by fire), we are thankful to say are safe, for Mayen gave strict orders not to molest any one of us or ours, nor touch anything belonging to us. But as we are by no means out of danger, being surrounded by many enemies, and we are informed that Kosoko at Lagos, and the King of Porto Novo, are preparing to aid the expelled Popos, and take revenge, by which we should surely suffer, we deem it expedient to represent our present critical position, and to request that you will as soon as possible afford us protection. A small company of soldiers with their officers stationed on the river or on our premises, would, we think, be sufficient to protect us.

There is a goodly number of British subjects (liberated Africans included), with a considerable amount of property here, one having goods on shore to the amount of between 4000*l.* and 5000*l.*

Hoping that this will meet you soon, and that you can send us timely aid, we subscribe, &c.

(Signed)

C. A. GOLLMER.
J. G. SANDEMAN.
W. McCASKEY.
J. MARTIN.
J. A. SINCLAIR.
J. TICKLE.
W. SAVAGE.
Q. DADDIE.
S. FLOWIZ.
J. BATTEN.
WILLIAM GELL.

P.S.—We are sorry to be obliged to state that on account of the scarcity of provisions we should be totally unable to provide for the men you may send.

Medical assistance is very much wanted by the wounded.

Inclosure 9 in No. 41.

Commander Heath to the British Residents at Badagry.

Gentlemen,

"Niger," Badagry, June 17, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, informing me of the rise and progress of the late disturbances at Badagry, and of your own projects as regards the safety of your lives and property, and requesting that a small company of soldiers may be landed for your protection.

In reply, I beg to state that I must decline acceding to your request, because, from the nature of the climate and the approach of the rainy weather, no unseasoned European could land, for any length of time, without extreme danger; and because it seems to me that your safety can be as well or better ensured by adopting either of the courses I am about to propose:

1st. By embarking, with your property, on board the vessels in port.

2nd. By embarking yourselves, or removing to Mr. Batten's house, and leaving the property on the beach, within the range of a ship's guns.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

L. G. HEATH.

Inclosure 10 in No. 41.

The British Residents at Badagry to Commander Heath.

Sir,

Badagry, June 17, 1851.

WE, the Undersigned British residents at Badagry, who this morning sent you a statement of our present critical position in consequence of the war that took place here last week, and who requested that you would as soon as possible afford us protection, by sending officers and a company of men with ammunition on shore for our protection, have ascertained that Kosoko's (Chief of Lagos) people have reached Ajido, within ten miles of us, for the purpose of bringing war upon us; and therefore we again urge our request without delay to land men and ammunition for our protection.

A few thousand of small size bullets will do for our people.

(Signed)

C. A. GOLLMER.
J. G. SANDEMAN.
W. DUGGAN.
W. McCASKEY.
J. MARTIN.

Inclosure 11 in No. 41.

Commander Heath to the British Residents at Badagry.

Gentlemen,

"Niger," Badagry, June 17, 1851.

I MUST adhere to my previous resolution of not landing men for your protection.

I send in accordance with your request, 1000 pistol-ball cartridges and 2000 musket-ball cartridges, and request you will sign and return (to-morrow) the inclosed receipt for the same.

I once more urge upon you the adoption of one or other of the plans I have suggested for the ensurance of your safety. Within the range of this ship's guns you can hardly be in any danger.

Under present circumstances I shall not leave this anchorage (unless for a few hours), and I shall be glad if some one of you would come on board to concert a simple set of signals suitable to the present circumstances, as it appears Marryat's are not understood.

In the meantime I shall consider a white ensign with the union downwards indicative of "Wish to embark; request you to send boat to meet canoe at the back of the surf."

I have, &c.

(Signed)

L. G. HEATH.

Inclosure 12 in No. 41.

The British Residents at Badagry to Commander Heath.

Sir,

[June 18, 1851.]

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters of yesterday, the latter accompanied by 3000 ball-cartridges, conveying to us that you must decline acceding to our request to land men for our protection; and suggesting that we with our property should remove either on board the vessels in port, or down to the beach, within reach of the ship's guns; also that you must adhere to your resolution not to land men.

In reply we beg to say that communications from Commodore Fanshawe, Captain Adams, Captain Strange, Captain Patey, and Captain Foote, repeatedly assured us of their readiness to render us any assistance in their power, not only to take us on board of Her Majesty's ships, but land men to protect our lives and property on shore.

Accordingly we yesterday requested you to afford us the protection we so much need in our present critical position, and were not a little disappointed at the non-compliance of our request.

With regard to your suggestion to remove our property to the beach, and embarking or removing to Mr. Batten's house, the utter impracticability of following either of your suggestions we should have thought to be quite apparent, when it was stated that one merchant alone had between 4000*l.* and 5000*l.* on shore; besides we cannot get a single man to work, and were we to attempt embarking it would cause a panic, and the canoe-men would look after themselves; and so far from considering ourselves or property safer on the beach with nothing but the ship's guns to protect us, we consider both ourselves and it safer where we are: nor can we think for a moment of running away and leaving property committed to our charge while a chance remains of saving it; neither do we think you would recommend such a course, on consideration.

The commanders of Her Majesty's ships of war do not generally pay so much consideration to the health of their crews when a slaver is in the question, and surely the protection of sixteen or eighteen Englishmen, with a large amount of property, besides some hundreds of British subjects (liberated Africans), who in case of defeat would most assuredly be again consigned to Slavery, is a matter of at least not less importance.

We inclose the receipt for the cartridges you kindly sent us, and for which we return our sincere thanks.

(Signed)

C. A. GOLLMER.
J. G. SANDEMAN.
W. Mc CASKEY.
W. DUGGAN.
J. MARTIN.
J. SINCLAIR.
J. TICKLE.

Inclosure 13 in No. 41.

Commander Heath to the British Residents at Badagry.

Gentlemen,

"Niger," Badagry, June 19, 1851.

ALTHOUGH I have had a verbal communication with you since the receipt on the 18th instant of your letter (without date), I think it right to point out officially how very unnecessary and uncalled for is the last paragraph in that letter.

However much we may differ in opinion as to the proper method of meeting the present crisis in your affairs, there is no reason why our correspondence should become acrimonious, and I therefore hope that on consideration you will withdraw the words I complain of, viz.,

"The Commanders of Her Majesty's ships of war do not generally pay so much consideration to the health of their crews when a slaver is in the question."

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. G. HEATH.

Inclosure 14 in No. 41.

Commander Heath to the British Residents at Badagry.

Gentlemen,

"Niger," Badagry, June 18, 1851.

I SEND you a code of signals suited to the present occasion.

It is hardly worth while for any one to come off to confer with me about them (as I suggested yesterday), unless you see any material objection to make or additions to propose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. G. HEATH.

Signals to be made from Mr. Batten's Flag-staff.

Wish to communicate	[White ensign over white flag.]
The enemy are approaching, with hostile intentions, along the beach from the eastward	[White flag over white ensign.]
The enemy are approaching, with hostile intentions, along the beach from the westward	[White ensign, union down, above white flag.]
The enemy are approaching, with hostile intentions, from the lagoon across the plain	[White flag above white ensign, union down.]
Wish to embark; be pleased to send boats to meet canoe at the back of surf	[White ensign, union down.]

Signals to be made from the Ship.

Wish to communicate; please to send canoe to the back of the surf	[White ensign at the fore.]
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Inclosure 15 in No. 41.

The British Residents at Badagry to Commander Heath.

Sir,

Badagry, June 18, 1851.

IN reply to the verbal communication we had with you yesterday, in which you wished to know if you could be of any service to us otherwise than landing men for our protection; we are decidedly of opinion, if the Commander of one of Her Majesty's ships of war would be good enough to send a message to the King of Lagos, it would in all probability have some effect in protecting British property, were he to attack this place.

The liberated Africans are calling upon us for musket-balls, as they are the only party we can rely upon in case of attack; if you could spare us a few more we should feel obliged. Some balls will serve our purpose.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

C. A. GOLLMER.
J. G. SANDEMAN.
W. Mc CASKEY.
J. MARTIN.

Inclosure 16 in No. 41.

Commander Heath to the British Residents at Badagry.

Gentlemen,

"Niger," Badagry, June 20, 1851.

IN reply to your letter of the 18th instant, suggesting that a message should be sent to the King of Lagos, and that you should be supplied with musket-balls, I have the honour of informing you that on the arrival of the "Sampson" yesterday afternoon, I gave Captain Jones as clear an account as I could of the present state of affairs at Badagry, and submitted to him copies of our correspondence.

I have great pleasure in informing you that he has written the inclosed letter to Kosoko, and has directed me to supply you with musket-ball.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

L. G. HEATH.

Inclosure 17 in No. 41.

Captain Jones to Kosoko, Chief of Lagos.

I HAVE heard with deep regret of the disturbances that have taken place at Badagry, in a quarrel between the people of Lagos and the people of Badagry, in consequence of which the usually quiet and well-conducted trade between the British merchants and the people of the country has been disturbed, and much native property destroyed.

The English came here for purposes of trade, and are anxious to keep clear of all international quarrels, and they are sorry that there should be any disturbance amongst the natives. Mayen's party are now victorious, and Mayen has taken very great trouble to protect the English and their property.

S

Captain Jones hopes there will be no more war, but that both parties will now make peace. Should, however, the contrary be the case, and the Lagos people gain the day, he hopes and thinks, from what Kosoko knows of the power and strength of the English nation, he will give orders to respect the houses where the English flag, which he so well knows, is flying.

Given under my hand, this 20th day of June, 1851.

(Signed) LEWIS T. JONES.

Inclosure 18 in No. 41.

Obba Shoron to Captain Jones.

Badagry, July 3, 1851.

OBBA SHORON, second to the King, and Commander-in-chief of the Forces of all Abbeokuta, salute you, and hope you are in peace.

I beg to send you the following words, and hope they will meet with a kind consideration.

I doubt not you have heard of the affairs of Lagos, the expulsion of Akitoye, the lawful King, and the usurpation of the throne of Lagos by his nephew, Kosoko. I therefore omit repeating anything more about it here, but merely to represent to you the condition we are in and the assistance we need. I assure you, Sir, our situation is such, that should you delay us speedy relief, or delay the execution of the affair any longer, it would be very dangerous for us. Delay, indeed, is wholesome in some cases; but in circumstances like this in which we are placed, delay would be defeat—it would be loss to us.

I have stated the difference between Akitoye and Kosoko to Her Majesty's Consul, John Beecroft, Esq., upon his last visit to Abbeokuta, and have begged him to take Akitoye under British protection, as Kosoko does not desist from seeking to kill him.

As a sure means of safety, that excellent personage advised Akitoye to go on board with him; Akitoye listened to the advice, and gratefully accepted the offer.

Kosoko, that you may know, has influence enough (through bribes) to gain over the different tribes of Africans to his interests.

Thus, a short time ago, he encouraged and aided the Dahomians to make war upon Abbeokuta, concerning which the Consul forewarned us.

They indeed came; a desperate battle was fought, and many lives lost; but, by the help of God, we have been enabled to repulse them; and but twenty days since, Kosoko's party here at Badagry has raised war against the people of Akitoye; many were also killed, but thank God, Akitoye's party gained the day. At present, Badagry is the only medium of communication between the English and Abbeokuta, as Lagos is still under the administration of Kosoko, who is an enemy both to Abbeokuta and the English.

Ammunition and other useful articles are purchased by us at Badagry. Kosoko is too penetrating as not to perceive such advantages; he therefore is labouring to cut off all intercourse between the English and Abbeokuta.

He is endeavouring to raise a very large army, composed of the different tribes of Dahomians—Isos, Jebos, Porto Novians, Ottas, and the people of Ado and Pokia, against Badagry and Abbeokuta.

Being apprized of this, I left Abbeokuta for Badagry, with a view to secure our interests here—our only seaport town; and also with a view to communicate these matters to you, and ask your assistance; for we fear, should Kosoko succeed in causing all these people to rise against us, we cannot encounter them without destruction.

I humbly and earnestly beseech you, therefore, to interfere in our behalf, to save our lives from the impending storm, and to prevent our being cut off as a nation, which you can easily do by overthrowing Kosoko and his slave-town Lagos, and reinstating Akitoye on his lawful throne there, and that before Kosoko should be able to carry his designs into execution, *i.e.*, within the next two or three months.

If Lagos is destroyed and Akitoye restored, we should have little to fear, as it is the mainspring by which all other parts are put in motion.

I would also humbly request that the Queen should take possession of this town, and that she should place some person of authority here, which would greatly contribute to our safety and the welfare of this country at large.

I would again pray you in conclusion, to take the welfare of this whole country and thousands of people into your consideration. If you please to send me word what we may expect, I shall be much obliged to you. Wishing you well,

I have, &c.
(Signed) OBBA SHORON.

P.S.—I have mentioned all the above words to Captain Heath, who promised to tell you all about it, and I thought I had better put my words on paper also, and send it to you that you may read them.

Inclosure 19 in No. 41.

Captain Jones to Obba Shoron.

"Sampson," July 18, 1851.

I WISH you long life and happiness, and pray for the return of peace and tranquillity to your country.

I have received the letter which you addressed to me on the 3rd July and I am greatly grieved at the continuance of the war in the country, and that the communication for lawful trade between Abbeokuta and Badagry should be so disturbed and interfered with by the people of Lagos.

But you and Mayen are strong and powerful. Unite your forces and act on the defensive, and I would say, avoid carrying the war beyond your own territory,

Do all you can to assist the people at Badagry, to restore order and re-establish trade, and keep the communication open with the country. Let your forces be directed to this object, and so long as your opponents do not interfere with you, let them alone. But if Kosoko will molest you, attack him with all your forces, and destroy Lagos. I am sure you can do so if you unite.

I hope very shortly to see Mr. Beecroft, and will tell him how much you desire the return of Akitoye, and I hope Akitoye may come and restore peace and happiness to the people.

In the last paragraph of your letter you request I will take into consideration the large population of the country, and you beg me to state what you may expect.

You are aware that the object of England is, "peace and goodwill to all countries," and that we do not interfere with the internal arrangements of other people, but leave them to settle their own affairs, so long as British subjects are protected and unmolested by the Government of the country in which they reside.

You will therefore see that it must be by your own activity and exertions, united with your allies, that your opponents are to be defeated.

I am very glad to hear that the people of Porto Novo have refused any longer to assist those of Lagos, and I hope you will immediately become friends with the people of Porto Novo.

I purpose being at Badagry again shortly, and I shall trust to find you and the people of Porto Novo good friends.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LEWIS T. JONES.

Inclosure 20 in No. 41.

Commander Heath to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

"Niger," Badagry, July 17, 1851.

IN continuation of my last report of proceedings dated June 20th, I have the honour to inform you that on the 27th June I landed and had an interview with Mayen, the Governor of Badagry, and Shamyeyi, the commander of an auxiliary force of two or three thousand men sent from Abbeokuta. My intention was merely to thank them for the protection afforded by them to my countrymen, and to request a continuance of the same conduct; but Shamyeyi took the opportunity of giving me the whole history of the war, ending his story with an earnest request that Akitoye might be brought back from Fernando Po, and set up by us King of Lagos; "then," he said, "there would be no more wars in this country." I replied that what he asked was quite out of my power, but that I would report all he had said to you. I need not give you a more detailed account of his speech, as I observe that he (or more probably the missionary in his name) has sent a similar statement in writing to the senior officer.

On endeavouring to return to the ship the canoe upset, and I regret to say Mr. Duffus, the assistant surgeon (who had landed with me in compliance with a requisition from the shore for medical assistance to the wounded), was drowned, whilst I but very narrowly escaped the same fate.

It is supposed that the King of Porto Novo will join his forces to those of Lagos, and thus place Badagry between two fires. I therefore proceeded on the 30th June to Porto Novo, and sent the letter marked No. 1, to the King, through Don Domingo.

A few cases of fever, one of them fatal, having broken out whilst at anchor off Badagry (where I am obliged to lay close in, that the guns may command the lagoon, if necessary), I worked to windward for four days, partly for the sake of change of air, and partly in hopes of falling in with and reporting the progress of affairs to Captain Jones; but not meeting the "Sampson," I returned on the 5th July to Badagry, and then heard that on the evening of the 2nd an English carpenter and Krooman in the employ of Mr. Batten, had been shot dead on the beach. Mr. Batten holds the opinion that this act was committed by Lagos people, but I have heard from two other sources that they were idle Badagrians, and I am inclined to think this the most probable account.

Since then nothing of importance has occurred. Her Majesty's ship "Prometheus" has been here, and Captain Foote has taken the senior officer's letter to Kosoko. and intends, I believe, to obtain, if possible, a personal interview, in order to impress the contents of the letter more forcibly upon him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. G. HEATH.

Inclosure 21 in No. 41.

(1.) Commander Heath to the King of Porto Novo.

IN the late disturbances at Badagry, it appears that the party of Mayen and Akitoye has gained the victory, and driven out the friends of the King of Porto Novo.

2. In all these disturbances Mayen has most strictly and honourably protected the English and their property.

3. What I now ask is, that the King of Porto Novo will promise me, on the faith of a King, that in any expedition he may send to revenge his cause at Badagry, he will give strict orders to protect the English and their property as carefully as the other party have hitherto done.

4. The English do not wish to take any part in the quarrels of the country; let the natives fight as much as they choose, but let them beware if an Englishman suffers.

Given under my hand, this 29th day of June. 1851.

(Signed) L. G. HEATH.

Inclosure 22 in No. 41.

Commodore Bruce to Kosoko, Chief of Lagos.

CAPTAIN JONES has transmitted to me a copy of the note which he sent to you on the 25th of June, relative to the war between Lagos and Badagry. I entirely approve of the caution he has given you; and as I shall remain in the neighbourhood, I have desired him to acquaint me with any case that may come to his knowledge, where British subjects have been injured by persons under your control. The English residents in these countries are here to advance the moral and social condition of the natives—they take no part in their quarrels, and therefore should never be molested; if they should suffer in person or property, in consequence of your war with Badagry, it will be my duty to inflict condign punishment on the offending parties.

Given under my hand, on board H.M.S. "Penelope," at Prince's, the 29th day of July, 1851.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 23 in No. 41.

Commodore Bruce to the King of Porto Novo.

IT is my duty to caution you that if your people in fighting with those of Badagry, injure the persons or property of any of Her Britannic Majesty's subjects, I shall at once inflict condign punishment on you and your country. Therefore take heed by this friendly warning, and remember, that as the English reside here to improve the moral and social condition of the natives, and do not interfere in their quarrels, they should never be molested.

Given under my hand, on board H.M.S. "Penelope," at Prince's, the 29th day of July, 1851.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

No. 42.

The Secretary of the Church Missionary Society to Viscount Palmerston.

My Lord, *Church Missionary House, August 20, 1851.*

I BEG to inform your Lordship of the arrival in this country of the Reverend Samuel Crowther, a native missionary of this society at Abbeokuta, in West Africa, which country he left at the end of May, six weeks after the attack of the King of Dahomey upon that town.

The information which Mr. Crowther is able to give respecting the Slave Trade seems to us very important, for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

It appears that the Brazilian slave-traders upon the Coast are now making a desperate effort to crush those chiefs and tribes who have combined with Great Britain to suppress the Slave Trade and to introduce lawful commerce, and that the late formidable expedition against Abbeokuta was a preconcerted plan on the part of the King of Dahomey with the usurper at Lagos and the chiefs of Badagry, Porto Novo, and Whydah.

The Yoruba nation is pre-eminent for their attachment to British interests, and comprises a large population of liberated Africans from Sierra Leone.

The rising civilization, therefore, of the Yoruba nation, and the presence of missionaries, are regarded by the slave-traders as so formidable a barrier to the procuring of slaves from the interior, that they are

now lavishing Brazilian slave-goods as bribes among the surrounding chiefs, even as far as Ashantee, for a second attack upon Abbeokuta.

Mr. Crowther is able to give much evidence upon these points.

It would doubtless be felt by Her Majesty's Government, that under any circumstances a native tribe struggling with uncommon energy and bravery to suppress the interior Traffic in Slaves, should receive assistance from Great Britain. But the Yoruba nation have special claims for help at the present crisis.

1. There are a large number of natives who, through the expensive efforts of Great Britain, have been liberated from Slavery, and received as British subjects at Sierra Leone, and have now returned to Abbeokuta to carry out England's generous designs by the establishment of lawful commerce in their native country, and who must not be regarded as having forfeited British protection.

2. The late visit of the British Consul, Mr. Beecroft, to Abbeokuta, was an assurance of the interest of Great Britain in their national independence and welfare, and contributed much, under the Divine blessing, to their successful resistance of the Dahomian invasion.

3. A warning was given, as we understand, to the King of Dahomey, by Captain Forbes, from the Commodore on the Coast, that the liberated Africans were under British protection, and that if they were molested, the port of Whydah would be blockaded. Notwithstanding this warning the King of Dahomey did attack Abbeokuta with a formidable army; and Mr. Crowther is able to prove that no instructions whatever were given to his soldiers to respect British subjects or property, native or European; and that had the Dahomians taken the town, all would have been involved in general carnage and ruin.

In the late war the chiefs of Abbeokuta received important aid from a supply of musket-balls sent by the Governor of Sierra Leone; and in an interview with the Governor he stated to Mr. Crowther, that he should be willing to render further assistance if he had sufficient authority from home. Still more efficient aid might be rendered, by allowing a few natives of Yoruba who have been trained as artillery-men in Sierra Leone—and there are many such—to return to their native land, with two or three light pieces of artillery to defend the walls of Abbeokuta against a second attack.

I will venture further to suggest the importance of a visit from the ships of war to the ports of Whydah and Lagos, to demand explanations for the part they took in the late assault upon Abbeokuta.

The case of Lagos is peculiar. The lawful King of that place, Akitoye, was dethroned upon the very ground of his adherence to British interests, and is now residing with the British Consul, Mr. Beecroft; and the usurper at Lagos, named Kosoko, is only a tool in the hands of Brazilian slave-traders, and has been the agent in bribing the Kings of Dahomey and Ashantee, and other chiefs.

Mr. Crowther is able to show that if Lagos were under its lawful chief, and in alliance with Great Britain, an immense extent of country abounding with cotton, of which he has brought specimens, would be at once thrown open to commerce, extending from the Coast to the River Niger, at points 200 and 300 miles from the mouth of that river.

I venture to hope, that the statements I have now made will be regarded by your Lordship as a sufficient apology for the suggestion that you should grant Mr. Crowther an interview for the purpose of his corroboration of these statements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. STRAITH,
Secretary, C. M. S.

Viscount Palmerston to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

My Lords,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1851.

I HAVE to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have given their attentive consideration to the state of the Slave Trade on the western coast of Africa, and have observed with great satisfaction the success which has attended the exertions of Her Majesty's squadron on that station in putting down that piratical practice.

The watchful activity of Her Majesty's cruisers, the multiplication of treaties with the native chiefs, and the operations last year at the Gallinas, appear to have nearly rooted out the Slave Trade from the coast north of the Line.

There remain, however, two persevering offenders, the King of Dahomey and the Chief of Lagos, who still refuse to yield to persuasion, and who continue to thwart and to frustrate the measures of Her Majesty's Government. But Her Majesty's Government cannot any longer permit that the accomplishment of a great purpose, which has been steadily pursued by the British Government and nation for more than a quarter of a century by immense exertions and with great sacrifices, shall be marred and defeated by the criminal and piratical resistance of two barbarous African chiefs.

Her Majesty's Government have twice sent a mission to the King of Dahomey to endeavour to induce him to give up Slave Trade, and on both occasions an offer was made to him of compensation in money for a limited time for any pecuniary loss which he might sustain by foregoing the presents which he has been in the habit of receiving from the slave-traders.

To these overtures and offers of Her Majesty's Government, the King of Dahomey turned a deaf ear, and no sooner were the British missions gone, than he recommenced his usual preparations for his periodical slave-hunts. Her Majesty's officers had endeavoured to persuade him to desist from the barbarous practice of murdering prisoners on public festivals, and the only result was the murder of ten or eleven victims in the very presence of Her Majesty's officers.

The town of Abbeokuta, on the River Ogu, about 60 miles inland from Lagos, and about 150 miles from Abomey, has been the scene of successful exertions by British missionaries, who have drawn thither many emancipated negroes from Sierra Leone, and have instructed many of the natives in the doctrines of Christianity.

Her Majesty's Government necessarily take an interest in the welfare of a town which seems destined to be a centre from which the lights of Christianity and civilization may be spread over the adjoining countries. Her Majesty's officers sent to Abomey heard that the King of Dahomey intended to direct one of his slave-hunts against Abbeokuta, and they urgently in the name of the British Government requested him to abstain from such an attack.

The officer commanding Her Majesty's Naval Force on the west coast of Africa followed up this intercession by a stronger representation, and informed the Dahomey Chief, by a letter, that if he attacked Abbeokuta, his port of Whydah would be blockaded.

But the Dahomey Chief, deaf to entreaties, regardless of warnings, and confident in his own strength, marched, nevertheless, last spring against Abbeokuta with a large force, and if the people of the place had not been assisted by European skill in planning their defence, and by arms and ammunition, to repel the attack, this interesting community would no doubt have shared the fate of the many tribes who have fallen victims to the savage cruelty of the Dahomians. It appears, moreover, from the statements made by the Dahomian prisoners captured on the defeat of the Dahomian army, that no orders had been given to respect, in case of success, either the white inhabitants, the missionaries, or the

emancipated negroes; and if Abbeokuta had been taken, all these persons would probably have been reduced to Slavery, or have perished by the sword.

It would not be consistent with the honour and dignity of the British Government, that a warning deliberately given by a British Commodore, in entire conformity with the policy of Her Majesty's Government, and as deliberately set at nought, should be thus disregarded with impunity; and I have to signify to your Lordships the Queen's commands that the Dahomian port of Whydah and the rest of the Dahomian coast should be strictly blockaded.

It is, moreover, Her Majesty's pleasure that the blockade of that port and coast should not be raised until the Chief of Dahomey shall have concluded and signed an agreement, by which he shall bind himself to give up totally and entirely the Slave Trade, to prevent his subjects from practising that crime, and to expel all foreign slave-traders from his territory; to abandon the practice of human sacrifices; and to protect all missionaries who may come to reside within the range of his authority.

Of course no money-compensation can now be given him for any pecuniary loss which he may incur by abandoning Slave Trade. As the principal revenue of this chief is derived from the commerce which passes through Whydah; there seems good reason to expect that such a blockade will be effectual for its purpose.

The Chief of Lagos appears by all accounts to be a barbarous savage who has been put up and is supported by a set of slave-traders who have established themselves on the Island of Lagos; and it appears that his authority, which is scarcely more than nominal, is nearly confined to the island and town of Lagos.

It seems that this chief, and the slave-traders of whom he is the mouth-piece, greatly encouraged the King of Dahomey to make his recent attack upon Abbeokuta, under a notion that there is a connexion between the establishment of the missionaries and the suppression of the Slave Trade; and that by destroying the missionaries, they would impede the suppression of Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Government have been informed by Captain Denham, by Mr. Crowther, a missionary who has been at Abbeokuta and at Lagos, and by Mr. Beecroft, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bights of Benin and Biafra, that there would be no great difficulty in sending into Lagos the small force which would be sufficient for the purpose of expelling the present chief and the slave-traders by whom he is supported, and for re-establishing in his stead the former chief, Akitoye, who was expelled by the slave-traders on account of his intention to enter into a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

It is the Queen's pleasure that the Commodore on the west coast of Africa should be instructed to consider the practicability of such an operation, and to undertake it if it could be accomplished without much difficulty or risk.

The most desirable result would be, the expulsion of the present chief, and the restoration of Akitoye, with whom an engagement could be made for putting an end to Slave Trade, and for not permitting slave-traders to reside at Lagos; and any such engagement made by Akitoye would be faithfully carried into execution.

Any engagement to that effect made by the present chief would probably be observed only so long as he was strictly watched and forcibly prevented from breaking it.

If Lagos, instead of being a nest for slave-traders were to become a port for lawful trade, it would, in connexion with the navigable river which there discharges itself into the sea, become an important outlet for the commerce of a large range of country in the interior, and instead of being a den of barbarism, would be a diffusing centre of civilization.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Mr. Addington to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 8, 1851.

I HAVE laid before Viscount Palmerston your letter to Lord Stanley of Alderley, dated the 10th ultimo,* transmitting a copy of a despatch of the 3rd of July last, from Commodore Bruce, together with its original inclosures, on the subject of a mission which was about to be undertaken by Commander Wilmot, of Her Majesty's steamer "Harlequin," and Mr. Beecroft, Her Majesty's Consul in the Bights of Benin and Biafra, for the purpose of endeavouring to induce the King of Dahomey to sign the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade from his dominions, which had upon a former occasion been proposed to him by Mr. Beecroft and Lieutenant Forbes, of Her Majesty's ship "Bonetta," without success, but which Commodore Bruce thinks it is not improbable he may now agree to conclude, in consequence of his subsequent severe defeat by the Yoruba nation in his attack upon Abbeokuta.

I have also laid before Viscount Palmerston your letter† to Lord Stanley of Alderley of the same date, transmitting a copy of a further despatch of the 31st of July last, from Commodore Bruce, together with its original inclosures, on the subject of an attack which had recently been made on Badagry by the people of Lagos.

I am directed by Lord Palmerston to request in reply, that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that his Lordship is of opinion that the instructions mentioned in his letter to their Lordships of the 27th ultimo, about the King of Dahomey, and about Whydah and Lagos, should be sent to Commodore Bruce; but that he should be told that if, when he receives those instructions, a satisfactory arrangement shall have been made either with the King of Dahomey, or with the Chief of Lagos, or with both, so much of those instructions as relates to the Chief with whom the satisfactory arrangement shall have been made, or the whole instruction, if a satisfactory arrangement shall have been made with both, shall be considered as cancelled. But if either or both of those chiefs shall have rejected the proposals made to them for the complete abandonment and entire suppression of the Slave Trade within the limits of their authority, then those instructions should be considered as in force, and should be acted upon in regard to either, or to both of those chiefs, as the case may be.

The draft of Treaty which was to be proposed to the King of Dahomey in 1849 was more advantageous to him than the conditions which Her Majesty's Government would now be willing to offer him; and King Guezo of Dahomey must have been prepared for a curtailment of those conditions by the last letter which Lord Palmerston wrote to him, dated the 11th of October, 1850, a copy of which was transmitted in my letter to you of the same date. If, however, he shall have accepted the Draft of Treaty drawn up in 1849, it will of course be ratified; but if he shall have rejected it, then and in such case the fuller engagements and the less advantageous conditions stated in the instructions contained in Lord Palmerston's letter to the Lords of the Admiralty above referred to, should be exacted from him.

Pecuniary compensation may properly be offered in return for a voluntary engagement, but pecuniary compensation need not be given for an engagement extorted by force; moreover, at the time when the draft of Convention of 1849 was prepared, Her Majesty's Government had been led to believe that King Guezo had abandoned or was about to abandon the barbarous practice of human sacrifices; but what passed during the mission of Mr. Beecroft and Lieutenant F. E. Forbes to Abomey proved that this practice is still continued, and that there was no intention of giving it up; a stipulation upon that subject ought, therefore, to be imposed upon King Guezo.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 45.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Commodore Bruce.

By the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

VISCOUNT PALMERSTON, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, having signified to us the Queen's pleasure that instructions should be given to you to take proceedings against the King of Dahomey and the Chief of Lagos, we send you herewith a copy of Lord Palmerston's letter, dated the 27th September last; and we require and direct you to carry out the intentions of Her Majesty's Government as therein expressed, except as hereinafter modified.

We send you, at the same time, a copy of a letter from the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated the 8th instant, by which you are to be guided in carrying out the foregoing instructions, or in abstaining from doing so, according to the pending proceedings; and you will be strictly guided by the views of Viscount Palmerston, as therein pointed out.

With respect to that part of the instructions respecting Lagos, we leave the mode of carrying it out to your discretion and judgment.

Should you consider a small steam-vessel of use in any operations you may have to undertake in pursuance of these orders, and you are able to obtain such a vessel, you have our authority to hire it for the purpose.

And finally, we direct you not to keep possession of Lagos, nor to remain there beyond what is absolutely necessary.

Given under our hands, this 14th day of October, 1851.

(Signed) F. T. BARING.
R. D. DUNDAS.

By command of their Lordships,

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

To Commodore Bruce, Commander-in-chief
of Her Majesty's ships and vessels on the West Coast of Africa.

No. 46.

Mr. Addington to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 18, 1851.

WITH reference to Commodore Bruce's despatch of the 31st of July* last, a copy of which was inclosed in your letter of the 10th ultimo, relative to the attack made by the people of Lagos on the people of Badagry in the month of June last; I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that his Lordship is of opinion, that under the circumstances stated in the papers inclosed in that despatch, Captain Jones and Commander Heath were perfectly right in not landing an armed force to interfere in this quarrel between the native tribes.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

* Inclosure 1 in No. 41.

The Chiefs of Abbeokuta to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 9.)

(Translation.)

[Abbeokuta, August 15, 1851.]

SAGBUA and the chiefs of Abbeokuta salute the Right Honourable Lord Palmerston; all Abbeokuta salute the Right Honourable Lord Palmerston.

The presents which the Queen of England and Prince Albert sent to us we have received; that is, two Bibles, a corn-mill, and a letter. We rejoice much at receiving them, and return many thanks.

We have seen your messenger, John Beecroft, Esq.; the message he brought pleased us greatly, both young and old. When he had delivered it we saw you loved us much, on account of which we are induced now to write to you.

All the world, from the feet of the edge of the sea, they are the enemies of the Egbas (inhabitants of Abbeokuta), as Lagos, Porto Novo, and Dahomey. They desire to close the road, that we may not hold intercourse with our friends the English. Kosoko (the chief at Lagos) says all the persons whom they had sold to the Portuguese and Spaniards the English have delivered, and brought them back to the Egbas; this is their reason. The enmity which Kosoko has towards us is because the Egbas are the friends of the English; and this displeases Kosoko, because the English are spoiling his trade, and he does not see a plan of selling slaves. So, however it may be displeasing to Kosoko again, the Egbas must not turn back from the English for ever. The same Kosoko sent to Dahomey and Porto Novo, saying, "Because our Slave Trade is spoilt for us, let us join hand to hand, that we may shut the Badagry road to the Egbas." On account of this the King of Dahomey brought war; he desired to break us, our children, and the English who dwell here, that he may spoil our friendship with the English, in order that the English may leave the country, and that they (the slave-trading chiefs) may have a return of their slave-trading. God made the friendship between the Egbas and English; may He not permit that this friendship should be broken for ever and ever, from generation to generation of the Egbas!

We desire to make a treaty of friendship and commerce with you according to the custom of the English. We have cotton, indigo, pepper, ginger, and ivory; but for the distressed state of the country, we could meet you with these things in any quantity; and but for the enmity of Kosoko, who does not permit the river-road to be opened, we could supply a large quantity of palm-oil. If you please, help us to open this road, that canoes may come to us on the River Ogu here; it would be a most acceptable help.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 9.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, October 4, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to communicate that on the 21st ultimo, Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser arrived here from Whydah in Her Majesty's brig "Harlequin," Commander Wilmot. He stated that he had a desire to see me personally. On his landing at Whydah, a letter was handed to him by Mr. Prior, agent for Messrs. Hutton, from Guero, King of Dahomey, stating at the same time that a deputation from Abomey arrived at the Fort, and requested him to write the King's mouth to Her Majesty the Queen of England. He wrote the accompanying letter through Madaki, the interpreter. Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser acceded to Guero's request, and proceeded to Abomey. Whilst there he received a letter from Obba Shoron, second in command of the Abbeokutian army at Badagry, with 1000 men for the protection of the Badagrians against the Lagos

people. A copy of Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser's reply to Obba Shoron I herewith inclose, with a copy of Guezo's letter to Her Majesty the Queen of England. The "Harlequin" sailed on the 24th for Whydah.

On Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser's safe arrival at his post, he will forward to me a full detail of his mission to Abomey. He stated that Guezo was anxious for presents, such as muskets, bayonets, powder, shot, and shell, to annihilate the Abbeokutians, if possible. At present I have declined to accede to Guezo's request, as the soldier with a big head has already paid him the visit he requested, and found whatever he had to state relative to signing treaties was all twaddle. He never intends it until Her Majesty's Government deem it fit to coerce him to the path. His letter is what I have already stated; he is determined not to come to the point for the best of all reasons. I do declare he is not the despot generally reported; he has not his own will.

I shall wait your Lordship's directions ere I proceed for Whydah, to accede to Guezo's request.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 48.

Vice-Consul Fraser to Obba Shoron, second in command at Abbeokuta.

Sir, *Whydah, September 9, 1851.*

YOUR letter, dated Badagry, at the beginning of August, reached me at Abomey, through the King of Dahomey's hands, who told me it came through the Anagoo Country. He knew well where it was from. It has since been stolen from me, and I have left the King's place in consequence.

I could not obtain an answer from the King respecting his movements and motives towards Kosoko, but I suspect he will assist him.

Abbeokuta is marked out for a second attack; therefore be vigilant, let no time be lost, nothing left undone, and success is certain.

More care must be taken with official letters in future, as I am now in an unpleasant position through the miscarriage of yours.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LOUIS FRASER,
H. B. M's Vice-Consul in Dahomey.

P.S.—I shall be in Abbeokuta as soon as circumstances permit.

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

The King of Dahomey to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

September 7, 1851.

THE King of Dahomey gives his best compliments to the Queen of England, and thanks her very much for sending me to his country; he has seen me and likes me too much. The same way he send he like, and same way the King of Dahomey will send messenger to Queen of England, by-and-bye.

The King says that the palaver that the Queen of England send him about no block Abbeokuta, he hear the King of Abbeokuta (Foolaka*) was the King's friend before; that Foolaka send him children to the King of Dahomey, and say Go block one country for him (called Keada), and the King block that country for him. If Foolaka live, he, the King of Dahomey, block Keada; and if he dies, he can block for him; because the King of Dahomey block Keada for Foolaka. The Abbeokutians go block two countries for Dahomey, King side (one is called Ba-gee and

* Is now dead.

the other To-soo); the Abbeokuta people catch all the Cabooceers, for those countries, and cut the head for all. The above is the reason the King of Dahomey get vexed with Abbeokuta; he pass forty-five peoples' countries before he come to Abbeokuta, and as he passed, he give 20,000 men for one of these countries, and also leaving some men in each of the other countries as he passed; is the reason he no block Abbeokuta properly. The reason he block Abbeokuta again is, that last time the Abbeokuta people catch and kill plenty of his men and also his wives, and keep them to make them their own wives.

The King says myself have live this country, by-and-bye me and him can settle the slave palaver.

(Signed) MAYO ^{his} ~~X~~ mark.

P.S.—The King say, anything belonging to the Queen of England live at Abbeokuta; he can see every one in his own hand.

The King say this black man kill this white man (Gee, at Badagry); if the Queen of England send to him, he can block his place; he no like black man for kill white man for any way.

The witnesses to the above were Yavogan, Narwhey, and two others from the King, Madaki being interpreter.

(Signed) LOUIS FRASER,

Her Majesty's Vice-Consul for the Kingdom of Dahomey.

Whydah, September 9, 1851.

No. 49.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 9.)

My Lord, *Clarence, Fernando Po, October 4, 1851.*

I HEREWITH inclose a copy of a letter from the chiefs of Abbeokuta to the British residents at Badagry.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure in No. 49.

The Chiefs of Abbeokuta to the British Residents at Badagry.

Gentlemen, *Abbeokuta, July 15, 1851.*

I AM requested by the chiefs of Abbeokuta to write to you in order to express their desires and views respecting Badagry.

It was with much concern that they heard of the war there, brought about by the enmity that the present Chief of Lagos feels towards them and the English.

Being desirous of preserving Badagry and the European trade there, in the welfare of which they are much concerned, they sent as soon as they heard of what had taken place, one of their member (Basoro) with a large force in order to protect it in conjunction with Uecon, from the attacks of the Lagos people, and to endeavour to bring back such of the Popos as were willing to dwell there peaceably, that the usual market may be held and trade carried on as heretofore.

In the doing of this they feel that they need the co-operation of the European residents at Badagry, and a good understanding with them; they hope that their fellow chief, Basoro, will be able to establish this.

They heard with much pain that one of the Europeans in Badagry was murdered.

This they feel to be an effort in consonance with the designs of

Kosoko, in order to prevent the accomplishment of what the chiefs here desire to effect, viz., the establishment of lawful commerce and peaceful traffic in the produce of African soil. The chiefs here hope that means may be taken to prevent the like occurrence happening again, and that the guilty parties may receive the just reward of their evil deed.

They have heard of your having sent for Her Britannic Majesty's Consul with much pleasure, and hope he will be able to come and settle the state of Badagry to the satisfaction of all parties.

They desire also to thank you for the assistance you have rendered to their soldiers in your gift of cowries.

They sincerely hope you will be able to maintain your position in Badagry, and that soon these adverse circumstances will pass away and trade be re-established and extended.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) H. TOWNSEND.

The above was submitted to the senior chiefs and each expressed his approval of it, but wished this to be added that they desire this or a copy to be forwarded to the British authorities, and to express to them their desire of forming a definite treaty; their words in this respect are stronger than mine, viz., they wish to submit to the English.

No. 50.

Viscount Palmerston to Rev. Samuel Crowther.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 18, 1851.

I HAVE been informed by the Church Missionary Society that you are about to return to your native country; and I am glad to have an opportunity, before you leave England, of thanking you again for the important and interesting information with regard to Abbeokuta and the tribes adjoining that town, which you communicated to me when I had the pleasure of seeing you at my house in August last.

I request that you will assure your countrymen that Her Majesty's Government take a lively interest in the welfare of the Egba nation and of the community settled at Abbeokuta, which town seems destined to be a centre from which the lights of Christianity and of civilization may be spread over the neighbouring countries.

Her Majesty's Government trust that the measures which the British Commodore on the African station has been instructed to take in consequence of the attack made last spring by the Chief of Dahomey against Abbeokuta, will prevent the recurrence of such an unprovoked and barbarous expedition, and will have the effect of promoting the security and well-being of the Egba nation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 51.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1851.

I HAVE received the memorial dated the 15th of August last,* addressed to me by the chiefs of Abbeokuta, representing that the Chiefs of Lagos, Porto Novo and Dahomey, are in league against them, and proposing to conclude a Treaty of Friendship and Commerce with Great Britain.

* No. 47.

I transmit herewith under flying seal the answer* which I have returned to the Abbeokuta chiefs, and I have to instruct you to forward it to them whenever a convenient opportunity may occur.

I inclose also a draft framed according to the usual model of treaties concluded with chiefs and communities of the west coast of Africa, and I have to authorize you to sign such a Treaty with the Chiefs of Abbeokuta.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure in No. 51.

Form of Engagement with African Chiefs.

Engagement between Her Majesty the Queen of England and the Chiefs of , for the abolition of the Traffic in Slaves.
Signed at

on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and the Chiefs of and of the neighbourhood, on the part of themselves and of their country, have agreed upon the following Articles and Conditions :—

ARTICLE I.

The export of slaves to foreign countries is for ever abolished in the territories of the Chiefs of and the Chiefs of engage to make and to proclaim a law prohibiting any of their subjects or any person within their jurisdiction, from selling or assisting in the sale of any slave for transportation to a foreign country; and the Chiefs of promise to inflict a severe punishment on any person who shall break this Law.

ARTICLE II.

No European, or other person whatever, shall be permitted to reside within the territory of the Chiefs of for the purpose of carrying on in any way the Traffic in Slaves; and no houses, or stores, or buildings of any kind whatever, shall be erected for the purpose of Slave Trade within the territory of the Chiefs of and if any such houses, stores, or buildings shall at any future time be erected, and the Chiefs of shall fail or be unable to destroy them, they may be destroyed by any British officers employed for the suppression of Slave Trade.

ARTICLE III.

If at any time it shall appear that Slave Trade has been carried on through or from the territory of the Chiefs of the Slave Trade may be put down by Great Britain by force upon that territory, and British officers may seize the boats of found anywhere carrying on the Slave Trade; and the Chiefs of will be subject to a severe act of displeasure on the part of the Queen of England.

ARTICLE IV.

The subjects of the Queen of England may always trade freely with the people of in every article they may wish to buy and sell in all the places and ports and rivers within the territories of the Chiefs of and throughout the whole of their dominions; and the Chiefs of pledge themselves to show no favour and give no privilege to the ships and traders of other countries, which they do not show to those of England.

ARTICLE V.

Power is hereby expressly reserved to the French Government to become a party to this Treaty, if they should think fit, agreeably to the provisions of Article V of the Convention between Her Majesty and the King of the French, signed in London on the 29th of May, 1845.

No. 52.

Viscount Palmerston to the Chiefs of Abbeokuta.

Foreign Office, December 23, 1851.

I HAVE received through Mr. Beecroft, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bights of Benin and Biafra, your letter of the 15th of August,* 1851, stating that, in consequence of your friendship with England, the Chiefs of Lagos, Porto Novo, and Dahomey, are in league to close against the Egba nation the channels of trade and communication between Abbeokuta and the sea, and that those chiefs intend to make war with you.

Your letter also states that you wish to make a Treaty of Friendship and Trade with Great Britain.

I have to inform you that when Her Majesty's Government heard of the inroad which Guezo, the Chief of Dahomey, made last spring into your territory, they gave instructions which they trust may have the effect of preventing King Guezo from again undertaking an unprovoked attack upon Abbeokuta, and may lead to the cessation of the Slave Trade and the encouragement of legitimate commerce.

With regard to your proposal to enter into Treaty engagements with Great Britain, I have to inform you that I have sent to Mr. Beecroft the draft of a Treaty which he will be authorized to sign with you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 53.

Viscount Palmerston to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 24, 1851.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 4th of October, stating that Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser has proceeded to Abomey in consequence of an invitation from Guezo, King of Dahomey, and inclosing a translation of a message sent by that chief to the Queen.

I have to state to you that it is not fitting that either you, or Mr. Fraser, or any other British officer should under present circumstances go again to Abomey.

* No. 47.

The Chief of Dahomey knows what are the desires of the British Government in regard to the Slave Trade; if he is willing to comply with those desires, he can send to Whydah some person duly authorized to conclude an engagement on his part or to signify his readiness to conclude such an engagement with any British officer who may be sent for that purpose to Dahomey; but until such willingness on the part of King Guezo is formally signified, there would be no use in sending any British officer to Abomey.

Instructions to the above effect have been sent to Vice-Consul Fraser, and I have at the same time directed him to address a letter to the Chief of Dahomey, reminding him that the British Government expects and requires that he shall abstain from any attack on Abbeokuta.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 54.

Viscount Palmerston to Vice-Consul Fraser.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 24, 1851.

I HAVE received from Mr. Consul Beecroft a copy of a paper which appears to contain the substance of a message from the Chief of Dahomey to the Queen, which was sent to Whydah by a deputation which arrived at that place from Abomey in September last.

Mr. Beecroft has also informed me that, in compliance with an invitation conveyed to you by that deputation, you went to Abomey and returned again from thence without obtaining from King Guezo any satisfactory assurance either respecting the Slave Trade, or as to the intentions of that chief with regard to Abbeokuta.

I have to state to you that it is not fitting that either you or any other British agent should, under present circumstances, go again to Abomey. The Chief of Dahomey knows what are the desires of the British Government in regard to the Slave Trade. If he is willing to comply with those desires, he can send to Whydah some person duly authorized to conclude an engagement on his part, or to signify his readiness to conclude such an engagement with any British officer who may be sent for that purpose to Dahomey; but until such willingness on the part of King Guezo is formally signified, there would be no use in sending any British officer to Abomey.

You will in the meanwhile address a letter to King Guezo, reminding him that the British Government expects and requires that he shall abstain from any attack on Abbeokuta.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 55.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 7, 1852.)

My Lord,

"Bloodhound," off Lagos, November 26, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to communicate, for the information of your Lordship, that I embarked on board of Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound" on the 10th instant, accompanied by King Akitoye and his suite, and arrived off Lagos on the 13th. Communicated with Commander Wilmot of Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin," who informed me that he had discovered a safe boat-channel into the River Ogu; and he had visited

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Kosoko, the present Chief of Lagos, and was kindly received. That it was his impression that he would accede to my terms, if proposed. It appeared to me a favourable opportunity to enter into a negotiation with the said chief at once.

The same evening Her Majesty's brig "Waterwitch," Commander Gardner, arrived to relieve Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin."

After a short conference I decided upon entering into negotiation in compliance with your Lordship's despatches* received 30th of June, 1851, dated October 11, 1850, and February 20 and 21, 1851.

It was arranged, in conjunction with Commanders Wilmot, Gardner, and Lieutenant-Commander Russell Patey, as there were on board Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound" 200 muskets for the protection of Abbeokuta, that I should proceed immediately for Badagry, land the muskets, and deliver Commander Wilmot's letter to Commander Coote, Her Majesty's steamer "Volcano," ordering him to proceed to Lagos, so as to enable him to form a respectable escort under a flag of truce to the present Chief of Lagos, to whom I addressed a letter, and left it with Commander Wilmot to forward.

14th November.—Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound" weighed at 11 o'clock, and anchored off Badagry at 4 o'clock. Fired a gun and hoisted a signal for a canoe. Did not succeed in getting one until next morning.

Saturday, the 15th, I landed at 10 o'clock, accompanied by Lieutenant-Commander Patey and King Akitoye. He was received with demonstrations of unbounded joy. Shortly after I held a short conference with him and his chiefs relative to Lagos and his accompanying me. It was arranged that he should accompany me. The flints and muskets could not be completed landing until Monday. Embarked again on Tuesday, the 18th at 3.30 P.M., and anchored off Lagos at 8.30 P.M. No "Volcano." Commanders Wilmot and Gardner came on board. It was arranged to start from Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin" at 9 o'clock, with ten boats, to proceed at once to the town of Lagos.

19th.—Daylight, strong symptoms of a tornado; showed itself 9.30; it came down in torrents of rain. It continued so long that our visit to Kosoko was deferred until next day.

20th.—Daylight, fine dry weather. Left Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin" at 6.30, with ten boats and flag of truce. Landed on a sandy point at the eastern entrance of the river, to wait for the water to rise to enable the heavy boats to enter. There are here a few huts, and two stores or sheds belonging to Senhor Marcos and Senhor Nobre, Brazilians.

A messenger arrived from Kosoko, stating that if we proceeded to Lagos with ten boats, we should be fired upon; it was his wish that one boat only should go. I remonstrated with Senhor Marcos on the entire absurdity of Kosoko preventing a proper escort to accompany Her Majesty's Representatives on a mission of peace and amity; that it was a national form of all the nations in the world. Senhor Marcos said that he had remonstrated with the chief to no avail; he would not listen to any other sentiment but what he first stated. I was on the point of returning, but after mature deliberation I told the messenger, through my interpreter, that one boat was not sufficient to take all the officers intended for the conference; I would come with two boats, well knowing, at the same time, that we were going to be placed in imminent danger, with such a bloodthirsty chief as Kosoko. We had to wait until the messenger returned, which was an hour, with the chief's permission. There were on this point of sand one hundred armed men, sent to watch our movements, no doubt. Senhores Marcos and Nobre, I must state, were very attentive.

10 o'clock, we started in the "Harlequin" and "Waterwitch's" gigs; Senhor Marcos accompanied me, and Commander Wilmot, Commander Gardner, Lieutenant-Commander Patey, and my interpreter, in the second gig. We arrived at the town in one hour and twenty minutes. We were

* Nos. 11, 23, and 25.

ushered into Senhor Marcos' house, there kept in suspense for two hours before we were ushered into the presence of the Chief, Kosoko. He was surrounded with armed men, with a host of retainers on each side of the court-yard.

I opened the conference by saluting him, stating that I was much pleased at having an opportunity given me as the Queen of England's Representative, of communicating to him, the purport of my mission.

Firstly, was the chief desirous to become friends with England, and sign a Treaty for the total suppression of the foreign Slave Trade within the limits of his territories? He replied that he was not his own master, but under the King of Benin. I told the chief that I was going to Benin, and would intercede with him also to sign the above-mentioned treaty.

I had previously asked the chief, supposing the King of Benin, his master, signed the Treaty, if he was prepared to do the same; he distinctly stated, through his Prime Minister, Tapaa, that he would not enter into any treaty with the English, and did not wish their friendship. I again put the same question as above, if he, Kosoko, was ready and willing to sign the Treaty with his master, the King of Benin, as he had already acknowledged him to be so?

The chief then stated that he had not up to the present received any power or authority from the King of Benin to rule as King of Lagos. He repeated the same as above, that the King might sign, but he, Kosoko, would not, nor had he any desire to do so. It is quite certain that the King of Benin will not give him that power, so long as he is certain Akitoye is alive, for he has the emblems of authority from the late and present King of Benin, who was crowned at the city of Benin when I was in that river last March. Of the further details of this conference, my Lord, I send a copy.

Finding, after our conference, that our terms were rejected, it was decided to collect such a show of force as the moment could supply, with the firm belief that such force, judging from the character of African chiefs, would have the effect, by simple demonstration of our power, to cause him to accede to our terms. We entered the river with a flag of truce, and but three guns were fired by the "Bloodhound" on entering the river, at what was considered outposts firing without authority. The flags of truce were flying until off the town, when the fire from the shore became so galling as to render the flag of truce nugatory. On being hauled down by us, a general fire in return was opened from us by the boats and Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound." The latter's assistance as a cover for the boats was unfortunately lost by her grounding at high-water, within range of the town, but not sufficiently so to afford that support to the boats that was so necessary. The waters were cleared of canoes, and a considerable part of the town burnt; but the mud-walls and very narrow streets afforded so great an advantage to the enemy, who were swarming in vast numbers, and proved themselves such good marksmen, that it was thought advisable to recall the people to their boats, as our people suffered much.

The "Bloodhound" remained on shore until high-water, when she was hove-off into $2\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms, and remained for the night.

The senior officer and a part of the boats left the river for their ships. The following morning early, the expedition was withdrawn, the senior officer being fearful of fever.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

Consul Beecroft to Kosoko, Chief of Lagos.

HER Britannic Majesty's Representative, John Beecroft, Esquire, accompanied by a naval escort, desires to hold a peaceful conference with the present Chief of Lagos. He hopes, therefore, that the Chief of Lagos

will be prepared to receive him and the English officers who will accompany him with that great respect and honour which the power and pure motives of England demand.

The Chief of Lagos will be informed one day previous to the intended conference, which will be immediately after Her Majesty's Representative returns from Badagry.

Given under my hand, this 14th day of November, 1851.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 55.

Minute of a Conference with Kosoko, Chief of Lagos.

AT a conference held at the Chief's house at the town of Lagos, under a flag of truce, on November 20, 1851.

PRESENT :

On the part of Lagos—

Kosoko, and other chiefs.

On the part of England—

Her Majesty's Consul, John Beecroft, Esq.

Commander A. E. Wilmot, H.M.S. "Harlequin."

Commander Alan Gardner, H.M.S. "Waterwitch."

Lieutenant Russell Patey, H.M.S. "Bloodhound."

AT this meeting England's Representatives were particular in pointing out the advantages of peace, and the wealth certain to accrue from legitimate and proper trade; together with the friendship and alliance of England depending on the total abolition of foreign Slavery: a traffic that fosters wars, rapine, and murder, destroying all natural ties, making a rich and beautiful country a wilderness—a scene of desolation and woe.

It was explained that by cultivating the soil, greater riches would more honourably, and certainly more happily, be obtained than Slave Traffic could possibly insure; and that the large majority of African chiefs had acceded to the views of England; had entered into treaty for the suppression of foreign Slavery, and were now reaping the benefit by the increased wealth and contentment of their people.

The firm determination of England to put an end to this infamous Traffic in Slavery, which her great power enables her to do, was then mentioned, with the resolution to be friends with none who opposed her.

Lastly, the question was put whether the Chief of Lagos desired the friendship of England, knowing the terms by which that friendship and alliance could alone be secured.

On the part of Lagos, these propositions were declined, with the remark that the friendship of England was not wanted.

Given under our hands, this 24th day of November, 1851.

(Signed)

JOHN BEECROFT, *Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*

ARTHUR P. EARDLEY WILMOT, *Commander,*
H.M.S. "Harlequin."

ALAN M. GARDNER, *Commander, H.M.S.*

"Waterwitch."

RUSSELL PATEY, *Lieutenant Commanding*
H.M.S. "Bloodhound."

Inclosure 3 in No. 55.

Consul Beecroft to Commander T. G. Forbes.

*"Bloodhound," at Sea, off Elmina Chica,
November 22, 1851.*

Sir,

HAVING had an interview with the usurper chief, Kosoko, and used every available means directed in my instructions from Lord Palmerston, to make a treaty with him for the suppression of the foreign Slave Trade, the only answer that I could obtain was, that he did not wish to be friends with the English. I have no alternative but to apply to you (as senior officer in the Bights) for a sufficient force to compel him to make a treaty, or dethrone him and replace the rightful heir, Akitoye.

You will see in the despatches received by me from Her Majesty's Government, that it is their earnest wish that decided and peremptory measures should be taken, and if necessary by force of arms.

I call your attention to the necessity of acting promptly, before the war breaks out, which may be expected daily.

My opinion is, that prompt and immediate measures ought to be taken, the water being favourable across the Bar at this time, which if delayed would in all probability prevent any coercive measures until next year.

I request you will take into consideration my views on this subject to enable me to carry out the wishes of the Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

No. 56.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, January 7, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, the copy of a letter from Commander Heath, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Niger," dated 17th ultimo, reporting his proceedings and attack upon the town of Lagos.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

Commander Heath to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Niger," Sierra Leone, December 17, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 27th November, 1851, I left Lagos under orders from the Senior Officer of the Bights, Commander T. G. Forbes, of the "Philomel," to carry his and Mr. Beecroft's (the Consul) despatches to the Commodore. I first proceeded to Ascension, and thence to Sierra Leone, where I arrived on the 17th.

I find the homeward-bound mail-steamer on the point of starting for England, and as I have not yet fallen in with the Commodore, and there is no letter addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty amongst the despatches with which I am charged, I think it my duty, in accordance with Article 56, chapter 5 of the Admiralty's instructions, to request you will submit to their Lordships the following account of events which have recently occurred at Lagos.

About the middle of November, Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound" arrived at Lagos from Fernando Po with the Consul, Mr. Beecroft, on board. Mr. Beecroft immediately put himself into communica-

tion with Commander Wilmot, of Her Majesty's steamer "Harlequin" (the cruiser stationed off Lagos), and proceeded with the boats of that vessel and the "Waterwitch" to ascend the river with the intention of endeavouring to make a treaty with the King of Lagos.

In crossing the Bar the boats were met by messengers from Kosoko, the King, begging them not to come up in force, as the inhabitants of the town were much excited, and he could not answer for the consequences; should they do so. Accordingly, the armed boats remained at the river's mouth, whilst Mr. Beecroft, Commanders Wilmot and Gardner, and Lieutenant Patey, went up to the King's Palace in two gigs. They were received with much honour and ceremony, but the King refused to make any treaty whatever with Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

Mr. Beecroft then proceeded round the Bights in search of the Senior Officer, Commander T. G. Forbes, of Her Majesty's brig "Philomel," and made a requisition, in virtue of which the whole force was assembled off Lagos by the evening of the 23rd November.

On the 24th, Commander Forbes called together the Commanders of the vessels to consult with Mr. Beecroft on the steps to be pursued. Mr. Beecroft produced three documents. No. 1 was an extract from a letter of Lord Palmerston's to the Board of Admiralty, detailing the political state of Lagos, and suggesting that with a view to the suppression of the Slave Trade, it might be advisable to dethrone Kosoko, the present King of Lagos, and set up his rival, Akitoye. No. 2 was a despatch from Lord Palmerston to Mr. Beecroft, relative to the support to be given to Abbeokuta. No. 3 was from Lord Palmerston to Mr. Beecroft, instructing him to endeavour to make an anti-slave-trading treaty with Kosoko; failing in that he was to call upon the naval officers to give him such a force as would ensure his personal safety, and he was to obtain another interview with Kosoko, and point out to him the strength of England; the relative weakness of Lagos on account of its proximity to the sea; and the fact that there was a rival claimant to his throne; and in short, Mr. Beecroft was to use the strongest possible arguments to induce Kosoko to make a treaty.

After due deliberation, it was resolved that No. 1, being merely a letter from Lord Palmerston to the Board of Admiralty, could not be considered in the light of instructions to Mr. Beecroft. No. 2 was important, because it was well known that the meditated attack by the King of Dahomey on the town of Abbeokuta might perhaps be averted by British interference at Lagos. No. 3 appeared exactly to meet existing circumstances. The case which had arisen was foreseen by Lord Palmerston, and specifically provided for. Mr. Beecroft had failed in obtaining a treaty; the next step was for him to go up and use stronger arguments with the King, and for us to support him with an armed force.

A channel across the Bar fit for the "Bloodhound" had been surveyed and buoyed by Mr. Earle, master of the "Harlequin," assisted by Mr. Harris, of the "Waterwitch;" and at daylight on the 25th, the "Bloodhound," with the boats and all the marines, crossed the Bar in safety. The "Bloodhound" carried a flag of truce; and, in addition to this, Mr. Beecroft accompanied Commander Wilmot in his gig, advanced fully 200 yards a-head of the flotilla, with another large and most conspicuous white flag. On crossing the Bar, an ineffective but heavy fire of musketry was opened from the Point; but this being four miles distant from the town, it was considered that it might have been done without the sanction of Kosoko, and accordingly no notice was taken of it, and the white flags were kept flying. The steamer grounded when within one mile and a half of the town; and after an unsuccessful attempt to get off, the boats formed a line and pulled up the river. A gun from the shore now opened fire on the boats, and as they continued to advance, other large guns and a very heavy and well-sustained, but owing to the distance, harmless fire of musketry, was opened upon them. The flags of truce were then hauled down; and keeping all the boats out of musket-range, the gunboats commenced action with shrapnell shell and round-shot, whilst the "Niger" occasionally sent a shell towards the Point at the river's mouth.

The cannonade having continued for an hour or so; a landing with a view

to firing the town was resolved on; the boats accordingly pulled in simultaneously for one spot, and about 160 or 180 men were landed, the remainder guarding the boats and protecting the subsequent embarkation. The natives made a most determined resistance, and a most skilful use of the advantages of their position. The town, or at least that part of it in which we landed, consists of narrow streets, intersecting one another in every direction. We were thus exposed to a flanking fire down every street which debouched on our line of advance; and the natives, when driven from one post ran by backways to take up a new position further on. After advancing some 200 or 300 yards, finding the resistance by no means diminishing, but, on the contrary, that the number of our opponents was increasing at every turning; and having already suffered a loss of two officers killed and six or seven men wounded, it was determined that to continue the advance would be imprudent, and we therefore fired all the neighbouring houses, and returned to the boats, and thence to the "Bloodhound." The fire continued to burn with great fury for four hours, and there were two large explosions, but there was no wind all the day; and I am inclined to think the houses destroyed formed but a small portion of the whole city.

It can be no exaggeration to say that there were 5000 men in arms against us. A beach about one mile and a half in length was lined with musketry, and a continuous and most heavy fire was kept up along its whole face. Besides this every house was a small fortification, and there were five or six large guns and many swivels constantly at work.

The "Bloodhound" was got afloat the same night, and the next morning the expedition recrossed the Bar, and on the 27th the ships returned to their cruising-grounds.

Commander Forbes has, I believe, arranged that in the event of no submission being made by Kosoko, the "Harlequin" should occasionally annoy him with shells, &c., in order to keep him from attempting any new expedition against the missionary establishment at Badagry. In the meantime he has sent me to Ascension with the wounded, and I am to seek the Commander-in-chief, and inform him of the state of affairs, and to procure a supply of rockets; and he intends, I believe, to await further instructions.

I am aware that in writing this letter I should merely confine myself to stating the facts for their Lordships' information; but I hope I may be allowed to express a wish that their Lordships will be satisfied that we have done our duty, and that although we had not at the time of my leaving succeeded in bring Kosoko to his senses, we yet by making good our landing, and firing his town in the face of so determined a resistance, and of such an enormous disparity of force, did as much as was possible under the circumstances to effect.

I inclose a return of the force employed, and of the casualties. It may be considered nearly correct, but not strictly so, except in the case of the "Niger," upon whose ship's company, I am sorry to say, nearly all the loss has fallen. Besides those mentioned in the return, there were many struck more or less with spent balls.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. G. HEATH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

*Return of Force employed at the Expedition up Lagos River, on the
25th November, 1851.*

23 boats.
5 guns.
25 officers.
166 men (seamen).
53 marines.

2 killed (officers).
10 wounded.

No. 57.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, January 8, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated the 27th October last, and of its inclosure, from the Commander-in-chief of the forces of Abbeokuta, asking for assistance in the war against Lagos and Dahomey.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 57.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," Fernando Po, October 27, 1851.

I TRANSMIT herewith, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a despatch from Obba Shoron, Commander-in-chief of all the forces of Abbeokuta, and second in rank to the King of that nation, which has been forwarded to me by Commander A. P. E. Wilmot, of Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin."

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 57.

Obba Shoron to Commander Wilmot.

Sir,

Badagry, September 3, 1851.

I, OBBA SHORON, second to the King, and Commander-in-chief of the forces of all Abbeokuta, salute you and wish you long life.

I was glad to see your face and tell you what is in my heart; however, I thought I must put my words on paper, that you may not forget them.

I and my people are the Egba tribe of the Yoruba nation. Our fathers were farmers and lived peaceably in many towns, but war broke their towns and drove them from their homes; and so they and we, their children, built all at one place, that is, Abbeokuta, which is now a large town with more than 80,000 people.

We all are farmers and traders, and do not wish for war, but we have many enemies, and to defend ourselves we must fight.

Dahomey is our enemy. We have done him no wrong, but he is jealous of our large town, and thinks we shall get too strong, and so he came with a large army in the beginning of the year to destroy our town and make slaves of us, but we defeated him; and now he promises to try again in about four months.

Kosoko at Lagos is our enemy, because we are more friendly to the English than to Portuguese. We did not drive the English from our town as he wished us to do, but seek still more friendship and trade with English. He is our enemy, because we are Akitoye's friends. Kosoko spends much money all about to set the people against us, and so to defend ourselves we are obliged to engage in war.

Kosoko is the cause of war at Badagry. He bribed the Popos to kill and to catch Akitoye's people and to drive (or kill) the English from this place, but the Popos lost the war. Kosoko long desired to shut the road between Badagry and Abbeokuta, that we should not be able to trade with the English any more; and therefore as soon as we heard of the war here, and that this town, our only port, will be spoiled, I came

down with the people to help in defending the town against Kosoko, who sent many large canoes with many people and big guns in them, to destroy this place. They have many times fired at this town, but they are now afraid of the big guns the white people have here (which they fire at them, because one white man was killed by Kosoko's agents), and so they attack the people travelling on the Abbeokuta road. Twice they have fired at parties and kidnapped several persons. The King of Porto Novo is our enemy, and as Kosoko's friend joins him to make war upon this town. I therefore have sent some of my forces to chastise him, and thus compel him to make friendship and open the road that the merchants here may get palm-oil, and if you could only grant our desire to destroy Lagos, secure that wicked man Kosoko, and bring back Akitoye to Lagos, then we fear not, the whole country will enjoy peace, and if the Slave Trade is put down at Lagos there will not be much more war in the country.

But the particular word I mention to you this morning is, that I and all the chiefs and people of Abbeokuta are most anxious to make friendship with you and all the English. We bow before your Queen and Government, and pray you to make a treaty with us. We promise to keep the law you give us by your help, for if we have English trade we do not want Slave Trade. Hoping our petition will be granted and wishing you peace.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) OBBA SHORON.

No. 58.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, January 8, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated October 27, and of its inclosures, relative to the state of affairs in Dahomey.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 58.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," Fernando Po, October 27, 1851.

I TRANSMIT herewith, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a letter from Mr. Beecroft, inclosing copies of communications from Vice-Consul Fraser to Obba Shoron, second in command at Abbeokuta, and from the Chief of Dahomey to Her Majesty the Queen.

It is Mr. Beecroft's opinion that the King of Dahomey's sole aim is to obtain arms, &c. (presents), with which to attack Abbeokuta; that he considers himself a warrior, whose glory consists in fighting and making slaves; and that it would be derogatory to him to grow cotton or till the ground.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 58.

Consul Beecroft to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

Clarence, Fernando Po, October 14, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to communicate, that on the 21st ultimo Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser arrived here from Whydah, in Her Majesty's brig "Harlequin," Commander Wilmot. On his landing at Whydah, a letter was handed to him by Mr. Prior (agent for Messrs. Hutton), from Guezo, King of Dahomey, stating at the same time that a deputation from Abomey arrived at the Fort, and requested him to write the King's mouth to Her Majesty the Queen of England. He wrote the accompanying letter through Madaki, the interpreter.

Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser acceded to Guezo's request, and proceeded to Abomey. Whilst there he received a letter from Obba Shoron, second in command of the Abbeokutian army at Badagry, with 1000 men for the protection of the Badagrians against the Lagos people. A copy of Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser's reply to Obba Shoron I herewith inclose, with a copy of Guezo's letter to Her Majesty the Queen of England. The "Harlequin" sailed on the 24th for Whydah.

On Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser's safe arrival at his post, he will forward to me a full detail of his mission to Abomey. He stated that Guezo was anxious for presents, such as muskets, bayonets, powder, shot, and shell, to annihilate the Abbeokutians, if possible. At present I have declined to accede to Guezo's request, as the soldier with a big head has already paid him the visit he requested, and found whatever he had to state relative to signing treaties was all twaddle. He never intends it until Her Majesty's Government deem it fit to coerce him to the path, by blockading Whydah.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 58.

Vice-Consul Fraser to Obba Shoron.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 58.

The King of Dahomey to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 48.]

No. 59.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, January 8, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated the 27th October last, and of its inclosure, relative to the native war at Badagry and Abbeokuta, on the west coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 59.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," Fernando Po, October 27, 1851.

I TRANSMIT herewith to be laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a letter from the Reverend H. Townsend, respecting the native war at Badagry and Abbeokuta, which has been forwarded to me by Commander A. P. E. Wilmot, of Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin."

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 59.

The Rev. H. Townsend to Commander Wilmot.

Sir,

Abbeokuta, August 5, 1851.

HAVING a common interest in the welfare of Badagry and the English residing there, the English residents at Abbeokuta have heard with some concern, that you are unable to render such assistance as would enable Her Britannic Majesty's subjects to maintain their position, and that nothing is left them but either to abandon it, or depend on their own or native aid for preservation. It is a painful position to be placed in, but while it arises out of circumstances over which they have no control, they may with more certainty make use of such means as are given for self-preservation, trusting in a Divine Providence which is ever extended over those that most need it.

I would not trouble you with this letter, for which I have to apologize, but from observing in a copy of the letter addressed to the King of Porto Novo the following remark:—"The English do not wish to take part in the quarrel of the country; let the nations fight as long as they chose, but let them beware if an Englishman suffers." I would gather from this passage, and from one in a letter from Captain Jones, who calls the native wars a "native squabble," that Her Majesty's officers regard the war at Badagry as having no reference to the English or the acts of the British Government; but allow me with much deference to remark, that these wars result from the acts of Her Majesty's cruisers, and from the efforts of Englishmen towards establishing lawful trade. And I would further remark that they are directed against the English nationally, and not the English individually. As my views of the native war at Badagry appear to be so dissimilar to those of Her Majesty's officers, I cannot content myself with a bare assertion of an opinion, but must be permitted as briefly as possible, to show the grounds on which it rests.

The first act of hostility shown towards the English by Lagos, as far as my present object is concerned, was their refusing to allow the liberated Africans of the Egba tribe to land and pass through their country to their native country. The first that I have personal experience of was soon after our first settlement at Badagry: Lagos then endeavoured to bribe over the Badagry chiefs to procure the injury and expulsion of the English; but one of their number faithfully warned us of it, and we sought the assistance of Captain York, who was the senior officer in the Bight, and he promptly assisted us. His efforts were so well directed, that the chiefs of Badagry felt then that English power must be respected.

Soon after our efforts to form a settlement at Abbeokuta had been successful, Kosoko attempted to bribe the most powerful chief here, and from his previous character the most likely person to second his designs; but the good providence of God preserved us. The chief's answer was, "Let Kosoko drive away the white slave-traders at Lagos, and then we shall know what to do with the white men in Abbeokuta."

His second attempt here was to bribe over the native slave-traders. This was easily effected, and the result was, that they and the heathen priesthood in that district of the town where the slave-traders chiefly reside, persecuted our Christian converts, hoping to blight our prospects of usefulness, and to destroy our influence. They persecuted to the full extent of their power; but their efforts failed of the desired end.

From Lagos again, reports were spread that white men were spies for the King of Dahomey; and in order to effect our destruction they stated, that if the Dahomians should come, we would hoist up a flag, and by this convey to the Dahomians information of the state of the town, and point out a weak point for attack. This latter scheme was as abortive as the former, for I spread abroad a report also denying the assertion as regards spies, but asserting that we would hoist up an English flag, whenever the Dahomians came, to show them that Englishmen dwelt in the town.

But very lately one of our body of missionaries succeeded in reaching a large town two days' journey to the east-north-east of this. The intrigues of Kosoko here also followed him, and he endeavoured to procure his expulsion; but the chiefs answered his demands by saying in effect, that they should not like to be the first to expel a white man from the town.

The schemes of Kosoko were in vain, but not, therefore, his acts of hostility towards us and the English nationally; for against our national character were these efforts directed, on account of the injury done to the Slave Trade by the cruisers.

As these intrigues failed, and as the success of the squadron became more and more painfully felt by the Lagos Chief, so also did his evil disposition manifest itself against Abbeokuta more and more. The chiefs here, and I think justly, suspect him of aiding in the Dahomian invasion, and they thought it right to order the road between this and Lagos to be closed; but it was after a short time opened again by the Slave Trade party of this town.

The failure of the Dahomians showed that a direct assault on this town was one of doubtful success; the efforts of Kosoko were therefore redoubled to get Badagry into his power, and thus to cut off this town from intercourse with the English, through which it was supposed by him that the success of the cruisers in some manner depended. A suspicion is sufficient to rouse an uncivilized people into action; and the vigour with which they act in such cases less depends upon the apparent justness of their suspicions, than the magnitude of the object dreaded. We were frequently apprized here, of Kosoko's intentions; but for my own part, while I believed it was in his heart to do us all the mischief spoken of, I much doubted that the Badagry chiefs were so entirely blind to their own welfare as to throw away advantages that were bringing their town to a high state of temporal prosperity, for such doubtful ones as the Chief of Lagos could offer after the Slave Trade of Lagos had been virtually ruined.

The plans of the Chief of Lagos, as related to us here, before the fight took place at Badagry were, first to fight and defeat Mayen and Akitoye; then to reckon with the English at Badagry; and last of all, to shut up this town from all supplies of warlike stores, that it may become a prey to the Dahomians. The first act in this scheme failed, and of course the second and third could not follow; but a course of action has been steadily pursued by Kosoko, answerable to this plan.

I hope, Sir, that I have now stated enough to show that I have reasonable grounds for what I before stated, viz., that these wars result from the acts of Her Majesty's cruisers, and from the efforts of Englishmen towards establishing lawful trade; and as further added, that they are directed against the English nationally.

I hope I shall not trespass too long on your time and patience, by stating what direct efforts have been made by the authorities of this town to open a friendly intercourse with the English Government.

The first attempt was made by Spodeke, the late chief of this town; he addressed a friendly letter to the Governor of Sierra Leone, and by

command of the Government at home, a civil answer was returned. The second case was, that the present Chief, Sagbua, addressed a letter and sent a present to Her Britannic Majesty, which were graciously received, of which, as in the former case, I was made the bearer; and Her Majesty commanded an encouraging and suitable answer to be returned with a present. And since then they received Her Majesty's Consul, sent under instructions from Lord Palmerston, in a manner that did them credit.

These acts of the English, in answer to theirs, have encouraged the chiefs to seek deliverance from the curse that has pressed them down so long, and to resist the warlike efforts of the Slave Trade party to force upon them a different policy. Without advice from the English, they have determined to address the British Government again direct, and they have appointed Friday as the day to meet together and dictate a letter to me; and which I have promised to write verbally, as they may speak it in their own tongue, in order that their genuine expressions may be sent, and not a mere interpretation, subject to any one's translation.

I may remark that since the fight in Badagry, the desires and aims of the Egbas and Mewes have been most praiseworthy. The Popos at Badagry plotted destruction against them at the instigation of Kosoko, but Mewes having defeated them, they desire to receive them back in a friendly spirit, in order that English lawful trade may be sustained, regarding justly Kosoko as the author of all the mischief, with whom no peace should be made but upon submission; but their well-intended efforts are opposed by the combined efforts and plots of Kosoko and the King of Porto Novo.

To-day an expedition is to be set forth against one or both of these chiefs, to make a division in favour of Badagry: what their instructions are, I do not know. In former cases of their sending forth such expeditions, the English here have counselled them against it, but now it is not in this instance just to do so; it is evident that necessity for the maintenance of their just rights calls it forth.

I may be permitted to add for myself, that in writing this I seek for no personal protection of any individual or individuals, or that of mere property, but what I deem to have been the noble object of the English nation to effect,—the deliverance of Africa from the Slave Trade and the encouragement of lawful traffic. This country has supplied her full share of slaves, and has suffered beyond the power of man fully to realize in so doing; but now enlightened and encouraged by the acts of the British Government, the Egbas have aroused to deliver themselves from it. As one of the chiefs expressed himself to the Consul in a public assembly, "our fathers were farmers and obtained enough for all their wants by their farms, without the Slave Trade; we also can live by the produce of our farms; if our farmers could only labour in safety, we should be glad to give up this evil Slave Trade."

Are not these the feelings the English are seeking to encourage; is not this the object upon which so many valuable lives and so much treasure has been spent? But to quench this feeling, to mar this good work, Kosoko and the Kings of Porto Novo and Dahomey are labouring. The abandonment of Badagry by the English traders and missionaries is not, therefore, merely the saving of so many lives, and the saving or losing of so much property as the case may be, but whether a great and good principle in which all England is interested and has laboured, is to be quenched by the craft, corruption, and power of the slave-trading chiefs.

I have no fear for the ultimate result of the present struggle; God, to whom must be ascribed every good, will not suffer the good work that has been commenced in this country to fall to the ground. The pests and evil purposes of the one party is consistent with the evil work they have been so long doing, and the struggles and difficulties of the other, the result of their long degradation and imperfect views of things.

I must again apologize for troubling you with this letter.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed)

H. TOWNSEND.

P.S.—It will be necessary for me to observe that I have purposely omitted to make mention of any religious grounds of opposition, for I do not know that we have received any except from the heathen priesthood where we dwell. The acts of Kosoko were not directed against us, because we by our religious teaching endangered his idolatry, but because the English Government, through the instrumentality of her cruizers, were destroying the Slave Trade; and because, as he well knows, wherever the English are, there the national character and spirit of Englishmen must be shown, and lawful trade increase to the loss of the Slave Trade. The acts of the Egba Government show that the fears of the Slave Trade party are not groundless, for they are seeking to make a treaty of friendship and commerce with the British Government, and such a treaty may be made as would ensure the opening of the roads into the interior, and the valuable produce of the country which has not yet found its way to the sea, such as cotton, indigo, pepper, ginger, and a variety of others, which the commercial and agricultural habits of the people would soon cause to become profitable articles of commerce to the English and to themselves.

No. 60.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, January 10, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a letter dated the 1st November, from Commodore Bruce, and of its inclosures, complaining of the conduct of the Chief of Lagos, and suggesting that a blockade of Lagos should be established, and be extended to Porto Novo and Whydah, if necessary.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(No. 164.)

*"Penelope," Island of St. Thomas,
November 1, 1851.*

Sir,

IN my despatch dated the 31st July, 1851, I had the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that I had written letters to the King of Lagos and the Chief of Porto Novo, warning them against molesting British subjects at Badagry. The former has returned my letter without any written comment, but sent a verbal message to the effect that he wanted no communication with the English.

It is necessary you should acquaint their Lordships that the natural-born British subjects at Badagry consist of a few merchants and missionaries, who have clearly a right to the protection which would be afforded them in any other part of the world; besides these, there are several hundreds of liberated Africans, who, if they have not a legal, have certainly a moral claim on our support; their freedom has been solemnly pronounced by competent British tribunals; many of them have embraced the doctrines and practices of Christianity. In the centre of a slave-trading people they have withstood the temptation of the great pecuniary gains to be had from bartering their fellow-men, and have devoted their energies to the

exercise of legitimate occupations. Their interference in the war now pending between the Chief of Lagos and the natives of Badagry and Abbeokuta has been compulsory; they have been obliged to fight, not that Akitoye might resume the throne from which he has been expelled, but from the certainty that if the reigning Chief, Kosoko, conquers their adopted country, they will inevitably be doomed to Slavery for the remainder of their lives.

Agreeably with their Lordships' directions signified to me in your letter of the 2nd September, 1851, I have communicated with the Governor of Sierra Leone, and given instructions to the senior officers of the North and Bights Divisions of the station, respecting the conveyance of arms, ammunition, and men, for the service of the Abbeokutians; the assistance thus to be afforded will, I have no doubt, be of the utmost benefit in bringing the war to a favourable conclusion; but I trust that the King of Lagos having obstinately declined any intercourse with Her Majesty's officers, and having insultingly returned my letter, although the purport of it was merely to request him not to allow the persons or property of British subjects to be injured by the people under his control, coupled with the fact of his having forcibly detained an Englishman on shore for four days, while he was shipping a cargo of slaves, as detailed in the accompanying copy of a letter from Captain L. T. Jones, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Sampson," will induce their Lordships to authorize me to adopt more stringent measures against him. I believe that every nation has a right to communicate with another in any matter that may affect the interests of its subjects; and that the refusal of the King of Lagos to receive the friendly warnings of Her Majesty's officers is tantamount to a declaration that these warnings will not be attended to.

The legitimate trade of Lagos is considerable; it is, moreover, the principal slave-mart remaining in Western Africa. I am of opinion that the establishment of a commercial blockade of the coast would not only bring its turbulent chief to a proper sense of his duty with regard to foreign Powers, but would be the means of completely suppressing the Slave Trade in his territory, and afford a salutary lesson to the neighbouring native Kings.

If their Lordships think proper to authorize me to establish such a blockade, I request that I may be permitted to extend it to Porto Novo and Whydah (the sea-port of Dahomey), if the course of events should render it expedient to do so.

I inclose for their Lordships' inspection, my letter, as it was returned by the Chief of Lagos.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Captain Jones to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

"Sampson," off Porto Novo, October 6, 1851.

REVERTING to the shipment in the "Relampago," mentioned in my letter of the 3rd instant, there is a point connected with it which will require explanation from the Chief of Lagos, viz., an English subject who was on shore at Lagos, and engaged to take a passage in the "Token," was detained on shore, and the vessel thereby detained the two days preceding and two days following the sailing of the "Relampago," and not permitted to embark. This is an act of aggression on the part of the King of Lagos requiring reparation, and I have therefore directed the cruiser off Lagos to exact a strict surveillance on all intercourse between vessels of whatever nature and the shore, and not to permit communication, unless the parties can give a clear account of their business.

Your letter to the King of Lagos is returned opened, which is an additional act on his part requiring coercive measures to enforce an explanation.

I think, Sir, if we had the power of immediately declaring any port blockaded, when the evidence was positive of slaves having been shipped; it would be a great step towards stopping this abominable traffic, and but an adequate punishment on the offenders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LEWIS T. JONES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 60.

Commodore Bruce to the Chief of Lagos.

Commodore Henry W. Bruce, Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's ships on the coast of Africa, to Kosoko, Chief of Lagos.

CAPTAIN JONES has transmitted to me a copy of the note which he sent to you on the 25th of June relative to the war between Lagos and Badagry. I entirely approve of the caution he has given you, and as I shall remain in the neighbourhood, I have desired him to acquaint me with any case that may come to his knowledge, where British subjects have been injured by persons under your control. The English residents in these countries are here to advance the moral and social condition of the natives, they take no part in their quarrels, and therefore should never be molested; if they should suffer in person or property in consequence of your war with Badagry, it will be my duty to inflict condign punishment on the offending parties.

Given under my hand, on board Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Penelope," at Prince's, the 29th day of July, 1851.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

No. 61.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, January 8, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, the copy of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated 1st November last, reporting that Mr. Consul Beecroft was about to proceed to Badagry, Abbeokuta, &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure in No. 61.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(No. 166.)
Sir,

*"Penelope," Isle of St. Thomas,
November 1, 1851.*

IN my despatch of the 27th ultimo I acquainted you that Commander F. E. Forbes had gone to Badagry in the "Sampson." I have now the honour to request you will inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that Mr. Consul Beecroft, whom I have seen at Fernando Po, will also proceed this day to Badagry and Abbeokuta, on a similar mission to that which Commander Forbes is employed upon.

Mr. Beecroft is satisfied that Abbeokuta is safe from an attack by the Dahomians for some weeks to come, as the rivers which must be passed will not be fordable before February or March. Supplies of ammunition and arms, if not of men, will have been forwarded to Obba Shoron, in the meantime.

Mr. Beecroft will also go up the Benin River with the view of ascertaining its capacity for facilitating the destruction of Lagos, should such a proceeding become necessary. He is of opinion that to give an effectual blow to the Slave Traffic in that quarter, Lagos ought to be taken under the protection of England, but he is at the same time aware of the pestilential nature of its climate and position. On this subject I would remind their Lordships that the European trade with Lagos is very considerable, particularly in Hamburgh vessels; and, moreover, that the second paragraph of Article VI of the Convention between Her Majesty and the King of the French, signed at London, May 29, 1845, stipulates that no part of the coast of Africa shall be occupied without the consent of the two High Contracting Parties. Akitoye does not appear to me to be a man likely to maintain his place by physical influence, if he could be reinstated in his seat of Government. I intend to be at Badagry and Lagos in the course of December.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

No. 62.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Lord Stanley of Alderley.

My Lord,

Admiralty, January 7, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you the copy of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated 6th ultimo, and of its inclosures, respecting the establishment of a blockade of all ports and places (except Badagry) situated in the Bights of Benin; and in laying the same before Earl Granville, I am to require that you will move his Lordship to cause publicity to be given to the same.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 62.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(No. 200.)

Sir,

"Penelope," Sierra Leone, December 6, 1851.

I REQUEST you will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that their order dated 14th October last, directing me to carry out the instructions of Her Majesty's Government relative to the King of Dahomey and the Chief of Lagos, having reached me at Ascension on the 20th ultimo, I sailed immediately for this place to concert measures with the Governor for obtaining a supply of arms and ammunition for the people of Badagry, and to receive on board as many of the liberated Africans as might volunteer to join the cause of the Abbeokutians.

After consulting his Excellency I obtained from the ordnance store-keeper, for conveyance to Badagry,—

2 light field-pieces (3-pounders) with 300 rounds of powder and shot.

159 muskets, flint-lock, with bayonets.

28,000 musket-ball cartridges and 2 barrels of flints.

The Africans would not volunteer without a promise of being paid for their services; under this circumstance I declined to receive them.

My despatches of October 27 and November 1,* 1851, will have apprized their Lordships of the failure which has attended my endeavours to treat on favourable terms with the King of Dahomey and the Chief of Lagos. I am of opinion that the course about to be pursued will bring about the object in view, and compel these barbarous rulers to put a stop to Slave Trade in their dominions.

I cannot tell the exact limits of the coast subject to the authority of the Chiefs of Dahomey and Lagos, but the Foreign Office chart which

was supplied to me on leaving England, and the reports I have received from Captain Jones, the senior naval officer in the Bights, and the several officers serving there, prove that Slave Trade exists (except at Badagry) from longitude 1° to $4^{\circ} 30'$ east; I shall therefore blockade the whole of that line of territory.

I send you herewith a notification of the blockade and a copy of my order on the subject to the officers commanding Her Majesty's ships on this station, which I trust their Lordships will approve of.

In the absence of any report from Mr. Beecroft, relative to the result of the mission to Dahomey, I should have delayed issuing the notification of blockade until my arrival in the Bights, but Mr. Fraser's communication, a copy of which was forwarded to you in my despatch of the 27th October last, held out so little prospect of matters being amicably settled, that to prevent unnecessary inconvenience to several merchant-vessels about to sail for that quarter, I deemed it but proper and just that they should be apprized forthwith of the steps about to be taken. I have also given due notice of the blockade to the several British and foreign functionaries on the Coast, and to Rear-Admiral Henderson in the Brazils.

I believe there is sometimes as much as six feet water on the bar of the Lagos River; a small steam-vessel, therefore, would be of infinite service, but I am sorry to say I cannot hire one at Sierra Leone.

It is my intention to proceed towards the Bights to-morrow, and I have made arrangements for meeting Mr. Consul Beecroft, Commander Forbes, and Akitoye, late Chief of Lagos, in the neighbourhood of Badagry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 62.

Notification of Blockade.

"Penelope," Sierra Leone, December 6, 1851.

IN compliance with instructions from Her Majesty's Government, it is hereby notified that a blockade of all ports and places (except Badagry) situated in the Bight of Benin, from longitude 1° to $4^{\circ} 30'$ east of Greenwich, will forthwith be established by me with an efficient force; and no merchant-vessel will be permitted to hold any communication whatever with the ports and places interdicted, from and after the 1st day of January next.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE, *Commodore and Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces on the West Coast of Africa.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 62.

Order issued by Commodore Bruce.

General Memo.

"Penelope," Sierra Leone, December 6, 1851.

THE respective captains, commanders, and officers commanding Her Majesty's ships and vessels on the west coast of Africa will receive herewith a notification of my intention to establish a complete blockade of all the ports and places in the Bights of Benin (except Badagry), from longitude 1° to $4^{\circ} 30'$ east of Greenwich, and they are to supply a copy of the same to the masters of all merchant-vessels they may happen to fall in with, inserting in the log-books of such vessels the fact of their having done so.

The duties devolving on the commanders and officers of the ships of the blockading squadron are of a most delicate nature: while, on the one hand, they are required to carry out the blockade in a strict and impartial

manner, they are, on the other hand, enjoined not to give occasion to foreign Governments to complain of any undue severity or annoyance in the accomplishment of this service.

Vessels of war are not to be interfered with in any way, and merchant-vessels are not to be detained unless they are found breaking the blockade after due notice of its existence has been inserted in their log-books, and signed by the boarding officer.

It must be borne in mind that the blockade is intended to bring about the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves; therefore it should be the endeavour of Her Majesty's officers, in the accomplishment of this object, to occasion as little inconvenience as possible to lawful traders.

Boats sent away to board, or on detached service, are to have an ensign and pendant flying; the officer in charge is to be of commissioned rank, to wear his proper uniform, and to be particularly instructed not to search any vessel belonging to a nation that has not conceded that right to Great Britain.

Commanding officers are required to receive on board their respective ships, British and foreign residents, and others, who may be desirous of leaving any of the blockaded ports or places for protection, or to wait an opportunity of being transferred to merchant-vessels.

No person belonging to the squadron is to be permitted to land on any part of the blockaded coast, without the permission of the Senior Officer present.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE, *Commodore.*

No. 63.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 16, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Lord Granville, the copy of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated 9th December last, and of its inclosures, addressed by that officer to the several British and foreign functionaries respecting the blockade of the Bights of Benin.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 63.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," off the Sherbro, December 9, 1851.

IN reference to the 6th paragraph of my despatch of the 6th instant,* I have to request that you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed copies of my letters to the several British and foreign functionaries to whom I transmitted printed notices of the blockade about to be established in the Bight of Benin.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 63.

Commodore Bruce to the Governor of Sierra Leone.

Sir,

"Penelope," Sierra Leone, December 6, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a notice of my intention to establish a complete blockade of all the ports and places in the Bight of Benin,

* No. 62.

(except Badagry), from longitude 1° to 4° 30' east of Greenwich, and I now beg leave to state the circumstances which have led to the adoption of this coercive measure.

1st. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo, in defiance of repeated warnings from Her Majesty's Government, persist in carrying on the foreign Slave Trade, the suppression of which has been an unceasing object with all civilized countries for years past.

2nd. Her Majesty's officers endeavoured to persuade the King of Dahomey to desist from the barbarous practice of murdering prisoners on public festivals, and the only result was, the murder of ten or eleven victims in the very presence of Her Majesty's officers.

3rd. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo have, in the persecution of their barbarous enterprises, commonly known as "slave-hunts," and against the remonstrances of British officers, attacked and made war upon the towns of Abbeokuta and Badagry, where several British missionaries and liberated Africans are located, and places which Her Majesty's Government necessarily take an interest in, because they seem destined to be points from whence the lights of Christianity and civilization may be spread over the adjoining countries.

4th. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo have declined to respect the lives of British subjects living at Abbeokuta and Badagry, should they at any time be enabled to force their way into those towns.

5th. The King of Lagos forcibly detained a British subject on shore, while he (the King) was shipping a cargo of slaves on board a vessel in the roadstead.

6th. The King of Lagos declined to enter into any communication whatever with the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on this station, and insultingly returned a letter which that functionary had addressed to him, although the purport of that letter was merely to request that British life and property might not be injured by persons under his control.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Similar letters sent to

His Excellency Colonel F. Gore Browne, Governor of St. Helena.

His Excellency Major S. J. Hill, Governor of Gold Coast.

His Excellency the Governor of the Gambia.

Rear-Admiral Henderson, Commander-in-chief, Brazil Station.

Commodore Wyvill, Commander-in-chief, Cape of Good Hope.

John Beecroft, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul, Bights of Benin, &c.

George Brand, Esq., Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, Angola.

A. W. Hanson, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul, Monrovia.

Louis Fraser, Esq., Her Majesty's Vice-Consul, Dahomey.

John Rendall, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul, Cape Verds.

Inclosure 3 in No. 63.

Commodore Bruce to Commodore Pénaud.

*"Penelope," Sierra Leone,
December 6, 1851.*

M. le Commodore,

I HAVE the honour to inclose a notice of my intention to establish a complete blockade of all the ports and places in the Bight of Benin (except Badagry), from longitude 1° to 4° 30' east of Greenwich; and I now beg leave to state the circumstances which led my Government to adopt this coercive measure.

1st. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo, in defiance of repeated warnings persist in carrying on the foreign Slave Trade, the suppression of which has been an unceasing object with all civilized countries for years past.

2ndly. Her Britannic Majesty's officers endeavoured to persuade the King of Dahomey to desist from the barbarous practice of murdering prisoners on public festivals, and the only result was, the murder of ten or eleven victims in the very presence of Her Majesty's officers.

3rdly. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo have in the prosecution of their barbarous enterprises, commonly known as "slave-hunts," and against the remonstrances of British officers, attacked and made war upon the towns of Abbeokuta and Badagry, where several missionaries and liberated Africans are located, and places which Her Britannic Majesty's Government necessarily take an interest in, because they seem destined to be points from whence the lights of Christianity and civilization may be spread over the adjoining countries.

4thly. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo have declined to respect the lives of British merchants and missionaries living at Abbeokuta and Badagry, should they at any time be enabled to force their way into those towns.

5thly. The King of Lagos forcibly detained a British subject on shore, while he (the King) was shipping a cargo of slaves on board a vessel in the roadstead.

6thly. The King of Lagos declined to enter into any communication whatever with the Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces on this station, and insultingly returned a letter which that functionary had addressed to him, although the purport of that letter was merely to request that British life and property might not be injured by persons under his control.

I feel confident, M. le Comodore, that you will be gratified to hear of the adoption of a measure which bids fair to ensure the suppression of the Slave Trade in Africa, an event mutually desired by our respective Governments, and to bring about which both France and Great Britain have maintained large and expensive squadrons of ships on this coast for many years.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 63.

Commodore Bruce to the Governor of the Senegal.

Sir,

"Penelope," Sierra Leone, December 6, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a notice of my intention to establish a complete blockade of all the ports and places in the Bight of Benin (except Badagry), from longitude 1° to 4° 30' east of Greenwich; and I now beg to state the circumstances which led my Government to adopt this coercive measure.

1st. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo, in defiance of repeated warnings, persist in carrying on the foreign Slave Trade, the suppression of which has been an unceasing object with all civilized countries for years past.

2ndly. Her Britannic Majesty's officers endeavoured to persuade the King of Dahomey to desist from the barbarous practice of murdering prisoners on public festivals, and the only result was, the murder of ten or eleven victims in the very presence of Her Majesty's officers.

3rdly. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo have in the prosecution of their barbarous enterprises, commonly known as "slave-hunts," and against the remonstrances of British officers, attacked and made war upon the towns of Abbeokuta and Badagry, where several British missionaries and liberated Africans are located, and places which Her Britannic Majesty's Government necessarily take an interest in, because they seem destined to be points from whence the lights of Christianity and civilization may be spread over the adjoining countries.

4thly. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto

Novo have declined to respect the lives of British merchants and missionaries living at Abbeokuta and Badagry, should they at any time be enabled to force their way into those towns.

5thly. The King of Lagos forcibly detained a British subject on shore, while he (the King) was shipping a cargo of slaves on board a vessel in the roadstead.

6thly. The King of Lagos declined to enter into any communication whatever with the Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces on this station, and insultingly returned a letter which that functionary had addressed to him, although the purport of that letter was merely to request that British life and property might not be injured by persons under his control.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Similar letters to the foregoing written and sent to,
His Excellency the Governor-General of the Cape Verde Islands.
His Excellency the Governor-General of Angola.
His Excellency President Roberts, Monrovia.
Commodore Manoel Thomas Silva Cordeiro, Commander-in-chief of the Portuguese Naval Forces, West Coast of Africa.

Inclosure 5 in No. 63.

Commodore Bruce to Commodore Lavalette.

Sir,

"Penelope," Sierra Leone, December 6, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a notice of my intention to establish a complete blockade of all the ports and places in the Bight of Benin, except Badagry, from longitude 1° to 4° 30' east of Greenwich; and I now beg leave to state the circumstances which led my Government to adopt this coercive measure.

1st. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo, in defiance of repeated warnings, persist in carrying on the foreign Slave Trade, the suppression of which has been an unceasing object with all civilized countries for years past.

2ndly. Her Britannic Majesty's officers endeavoured to persuade the King of Dahomey to desist from the barbarous practice of murdering prisoners on public festivals; and the only result was, the murder of ten or eleven victims in the very presence of Her Majesty's officers.

3rdly. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo have, in the prosecution of their barbarous enterprises, commonly known as "slave-hunts," and against the remonstrances of British officers, attacked and made war upon the towns of Abbeokuta and Badagry, where several missionaries and liberated Africans are located, and places which Her Britannic Majesty's Government necessarily take an interest in, because they seem destined to be points from whence the lights of Christianity and civilization may be spread over the adjoining countries.

4thly. The King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Lagos and Porto Novo have declined to respect the lives of British merchants and missionaries living at Abbeokuta and Badagry, should they at any time be enabled to force their way into those towns.

5thly. The King of Lagos forcibly detained a British subject on shore, while he (the King) was shipping a cargo of slaves on board a vessel in the roadstead.

6thly. The King of Lagos declined to enter into any communication whatever with the Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces on this station, and insultingly returned a letter which that functionary had addressed to him, although the purport of that letter was merely to request that British life and property might not be injured by persons under his control.

I feel, confident, Sir, you will be gratified to hear of the adoption of proceedings which bid fair to insure the suppression of the Slave Trade in Western Africa, an object which our respective Governments have long and anxiously endeavoured to bring about, and for which they have for many years maintained a number of ships on this station.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

No. 64.

Earl Granville to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 24, 1852.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th of November last, stating what passed at your conference with Kosoko, the Chief of Lagos, on the 20th of that month, and reporting the circumstances of the attack which you authorized Commander Forbes to make upon the town of Lagos, after Kosoko had rejected your proposal that he should conclude a Treaty with Great Britain for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that you were not borne out, either by the circumstances of the case, or by your instructions from Her Majesty's Government, in directing that Her Majesty's naval forces should land and attack Lagos; and Her Majesty's Government greatly regret the loss of life which has been the consequence of that attack.

The latest instruction which you had received from Viscount Palmerston with reference to the object of your visit to Lagos, was contained in a despatch from his Lordship dated the 21st of February, 1851. That despatch stated, that if the Chief of Lagos should refuse to abandon the Slave Trade and to expel the slave-traders, you were to remind him of the presence on the coasts of his territory of a powerful British squadron, and of the fact that his authority had been founded on an usurpation; but you were not directed to resort immediately to hostilities against Kosoko; and Her Majesty's Government cannot but regret that you did not, after the unsatisfactory termination of your conference with Kosoko, determine to wait till you should have had an opportunity of conferring with Commodore Bruce as to the nature of the coercive measures proper to be adopted against Lagos.

I am aware that Lord Palmerston's despatch to you of the 11th of October, 1850, inclosed a copy of a letter to the Admiralty of the same date, stating that it appeared to his Lordship, that if the Chief of Lagos should refuse to enter into an engagement similar to that which was agreed to by the Chiefs of Gallinas, measures similar to those which were enforced against Gallinas should be brought to bear upon Lagos; but you should have borne in mind that the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the west coast of Africa was the only person who could properly direct any measures to be taken with reference to that letter; and if you had consulted Commodore Bruce before you proceeded to require Commander Forbes to attack Lagos, hostile measures might have been avoided; and if a necessity had subsequently arisen for the employment of force, instead of directing against the Chief of Lagos an unsuccessful attack, which will necessitate further hostilities to do away with the bad moral effect which has been produced upon the natives, such precautions might have been taken as would have ensured success.

I regret to be obliged to disapprove of your conduct in this affair, as Her Majesty's Government have had occasion to remark the zeal and activity with which you have generally carried out the instructions given by Her Majesty's Government with the view to put an end to the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 65

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 17, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a despatch, dated the 19th December, from Commodore Bruce, and of its several inclosures, relative to the proceedings which took place in November last in the River Lagos, when an engagement took place between the boats of certain of Her Majesty's ships under the command of Commander T. G. Forbes, of the "Philomel," and the chief Kosoko and his followers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. PARKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 65.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, December 19, 1851.

IN accordance with the intimation conveyed in my despatch to you dated December 6, 1851, I sailed from Sierra Leone on the 8th instant. I proceeded along the coast, touched at several places, and arrived here yesterday, when I learned that Commander Thomas Forbes, of the "Philomel," had, on the 25th of November, upon the requisition of Mr. Consul Beecroft, entered the River Lagos with an armed force, which resulted in his being led into an engagement with the party under the direction of the Chief, Kosoko.

From the verbal reports I have received, and from information contained in the documents accompanying this despatch, I will endeavour, in as concise a manner as possible, to place the Lords of the Admiralty in possession of the particular circumstances which brought the respective parties into collision.

On the 20th November, Mr. Beecroft, accompanied by Commander Wilmot, of the "Harlequin," Commander Gardner, of the "Waterwitch," and Lieutenant Patey, of the "Bloodhound," held a conference with Kosoko and other ruling chiefs at Lagos, and offered them the friendly alliance of Great Britain, on the condition that they relinquished the foreign Slave Trade. The concluding paragraph in the notes of this conference shows how completely Her Majesty's officers failed in obtaining the end which was sought after: "On the part of Lagos, these propositions were declined, with the remark that the friendship of England was not wanted."

On the 25th of November, Mr. Beecroft having showed Commander Forbes certain instructions from Lord Palmerston, prevailed upon him to send an armed force, with a flag of truce, into the River Lagos. This force was fired at from the town and both banks of the river. The flag of truce was hauled down, a general action commenced, and the men effected a landing, set fire to several houses, returned to their boats, and re-embarked, with the loss of 2 officers killed, and 2 officers and 14 men wounded.

There are circumstances connected with this transaction to which I am reluctantly compelled to draw their Lordships' attention.

In the first place, I regret that Mr. Beecroft should have attempted to negotiate with Kosoko, after the failure which attended his endeavours on the 20th November.

2ndly. That in a case where immediate action was not necessary, he should, without consulting me, have requested an officer under my orders to place himself in a position where hostilities were almost inevitable.

3rdly. Because there can be no doubt that the instructions he had received from Lord Palmerston were intended by his Lordship to be carried into execution in conjunction with the Naval Commander-in-chief at this station.

4thly. That a flag of truce should have been displayed under circumstances which could scarcely warrant a hope of its being respected.

5thly. That having made an express appointment to meet Mr. Beecroft here on the 15th of December, to conduct any operations that might be considered necessary during the present favourable season, which will last until the end of February, the position of affairs now leaves but one course of action open to me, which is, to inflict a summary and retributive punishment upon the chiefs of Lagos.

I am quite certain that Commander Forbes acted from a desire to promote the interests of Her Majesty's service, and I am confident their Lordships will be pleased with the gallantry displayed by him and the officers, seamen, and marines under his command.

I particularly regret the loss which the service has sustained by the death of Mr. Dyer and Mr. Hall, mates of the "Niger;" they were both highly meritorious officers, and were killed in the very execution of their duty.

I inclose copies of Commander Forbes' reports.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 65.

Commander T. G. Forbes to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

"Philomel," off Lagos, November 26, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a letter from Captain Wilmot, of Her Majesty's steamer "Harlequin," also from J. Beecroft, Esq., relative to their proceedings in endeavouring to obtain a Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade from the usurper, King Kosoko. I have now to acquaint you of my proceedings on the occasion.

After the insult offered to Her Majesty's Consul, Mr. Beecroft, on his going up to Lagos with a flag of truce for the purpose of negotiating a treaty, accompanied by Commanders Wilmot, A. H. Gardner, and Lieutenant Patey, by Kosoko threatening to fire on him if he took more boats up the river than one, thereby entirely placing Mr. Beecroft at his mercy, Mr. Beecroft thought it advisable to apply to me to place such a force at his disposal, so as would deter the usurper Kosoko from having any recourse to treachery, to enable him to carry out the earnest wishes of the Government as expressed in Lord Palmerston's despatches, of which he gave me a perusal. A despatch, dated 11th October, 1850,* from the Foreign Office, addressed to Mr. Beecroft, mentions "that it appears to Lord Palmerston that it seems clear that the King of Dahomey will not be induced to enter into any agreement to abandon the Slave Trade, until the Chiefs of Lagos shall have previously been brought to enter into such an engagement, and until Slave Trade shall have been effectually stopped at Whydah."

It seems, therefore, to Lord Palmerston, that measures should forthwith be resorted to for the purpose of putting an end to the Slave Trade at Lagos; and with that view the present Chief of Lagos should be invited to enter into an engagement, similar to that which was agreed upon by the Chiefs of Gallinas; and if he should refuse to do so, that measures similar to those which were enforced against Gallinas should be brought to bear upon Lagos, or that steps should be taken to replace in authority at Lagos the former Chief, who is understood to be now at Badagry; and who would, it is believed, readily subscribe to the proposed engagement. In another despatch, dated Foreign Office, 21st February, 1851,† Lord Palmerston mentions: "If the Chief should show a disposition to refuse a compliance, you should beg him to remember that Lagos is near the sea, and that on the sea are the ships and cannon of England;

* No. 10.

† No. 25.

and also to bear in mind that he does not hold his authority without a competitor, and that the chiefs of the African tribes do not always retain their authority to the end of their lives." Having read the proceedings and result of the attempted treaty with the Chiefs of Lagos, together with Mr. Beecroft's request and opinion (as per inclosed copy of a letter); also Lord Palmerston's despatch to him, extracts of which I now forward, and knowing it to be my duty to furnish Mr. Beecroft with means of carrying on the negotiation without placing him in the power of the Chief of Lagos; I felt it my duty under these circumstances, particularly as any satisfactory arrangement being made now would in all probability postpone, if not entirely prevent, the second premeditated attack on Abeokuta; in consequence I assembled all the force under my command at Lagos, and anchored there about 8 o'clock on Sunday evening. On Monday the 24th, I held a consultation with Mr. Beecroft and all the captains, and having carefully considered the importance of trying to obtain a treaty, I ordered the "Bloodhound" and the ship's boats under my command to be manned and armed, ready to proceed up the River Lagos at daylight on the 25th, to protect Mr. Beecroft from any insult with a flag of truce.

We entered the river at 6.15 A.M., and proceeded towards Lagos with the boats in tow, having a flag of truce flying on board the "Bloodhound," preceded by Captain Wilmot in his gig, carrying Mr. Beecroft with a flag of truce, 200 yards ahead of the "Bloodhound." Notwithstanding the two flags of truce being up, on rounding the first point at 6.25 A.M., they opened a harassing fire of musketry along the right bank of the river. This first act of aggression I took no notice of, but kept the flags flying and proceeded steadily on until about a mile from the town, when the "Bloodhound" unfortunately took the mud, the enemy's fire all this time increasing, and the shot falling fast and thick among the boats.

At 7.25 A.M. they commenced firing great guns of different calibre; and at 7.45, Mr. Beecroft hauled down the flag of truce, which was done on board the "Bloodhound." I then thought it high time this hostile act of the usurper should be answered. I ordered the boats to open their fire with great guns and small arms, which was immediately done. They then endeavoured to cross large bodies of troops in war-canoes, for the purpose of keeping up a cross-fire of musketry from both banks of the river; this was effectually stopped by my ordering the gigs and cutters to cut them off, which was done, and our rear well protected in consequence.

With the very small force I had to oppose the vast numbers of men, armed with good muskets, and who were keeping up an incessant fire from behind clay walls, and the town being quite a stockade, I determined on setting fire to it, which was gallantly done, in the face of a heavy and destructive fire, at 9 A.M. My force not being sufficiently strong to keep up this unequal contest, and having accomplished all that could be done without great sacrifice of life, I ordered the men off to their boats, and proceeded down the river, taking care to keep the enemy in check whenever they showed themselves.

I have every reason to believe from what I saw, the numbers of men lining the right bank of the river must have been three or four thousand black troops well armed. Having burnt a considerable part of the town, I considered I had shown to the usurper Kosoko, that the British flag was not to be fired upon with impunity. I retired to the "Bloodhound" in the same order as going up, and then commenced preparing, by laying anchors out, to get the "Bloodhound" off on the rise of the tide. The practice made by her 18-pounder was excellent, and kept effectually in check some guns that would have done great injury to her while on shore. It being too late, after getting the "Bloodhound" afloat, to cross the Bar in the dark, I left Captain Wilmot to superintend the getting her off, and I returned to the "Philomel" with the light boats of the squadron for their respective ships, leaving the gun-boats with the "Bloodhound" for protection. On the morning of the 26th, the "Bloodhound" and remainder of the boats returned outside the river in safety.

I am greatly indebted to the arduous and difficult task performed by the Master of the "Harlequin," and assisted by the Acting Master of the

"Waterwitch," in surveying and buoying this most difficult Bar, which enabled him (Mr. Earl) to take the "Bloodhound" and boats over the Bar with perfect safety, having 15 feet of water, a plan of which I submit.

I have now to inform you that the boats of the different ships named in the margin* were commanded by their respective Commanders, with the exception of my own vessel ("Philomel"), whose boats were in charge of Lieutenant G. B. Williams (Senior Lieutenant in the squadron), and I cannot say too much for the active zeal and assistance of Captain Wilmot and the other Commanders, by their strict attention to the orders given, as well as the attention paid by the officers, seamen, and marines under them; and to their great forbearance in not returning the harassing fire until directed by me, I attribute the success of our enterprise in burning a large portion of the town of Lagos.

Though the loss in killed and wounded was very severe and much to be lamented, I feel that we were fortunate with so small a force (300 officers and men, 52 of whom were on board "Bloodhound"), so much exposed to over 3000 men, armed with muskets, besides, I should say, from 20 to 30 pieces of ordnance, in getting off with such little loss, in the difficult task of setting fire to a stockaded town, full of men and very narrow streets.

The two medical officers, assistant surgeons of "Niger" and "Harlequin," employed on this service, under the immediate direction of Assistant Surgeon Dr. J. Ternan, M.D., were unremitting, and tended much to alleviate the sufferings of the very severely wounded.

The two mates, Messrs. Dyer and Hall, both highly spoken of by their captain, met their deaths, gallantly leading at the head of their men; Mr. Hall was alongside his captain when he fell, and his loss will be deeply felt by his mother and two sisters, whom he assisted in pecuniary matters.

I have now written you an account of my proceedings, and the causes which led to the event which has just happened, and I trust that my conduct will be sanctioned by your approval as well as that of the Government. I have only to regret that my force was not sufficient to have dethroned Kosoko, and placed Akitoye, the rightful heir, in his place. If I had done that at a great sacrifice of life, I could have expected nothing but censure.

I am, &c.

(Signed) THOS. G. FORBES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 65.

Commander Wilmot to Commander T. G. Forbes.

Sir,

"Harlequin," Lagos, November 26, 1851.

HER Majesty's Consul having returned to this port from Badagry, on the evening of the 18th of this month, without the "Volcano," which vessel had been ordered by me to accompany him, I immediately communicated with him upon the subject of his visit to Lagos.

It was determined to proceed to Lagos at once with the boats of the "Harlequin," "Waterwitch," and "Bloodhound," manned and armed, with the full complement of marines as an escort, the leading boat ("Harlequin's" galley) carrying a flag of truce. The marines were to have been landed at Lagos as a body-guard to the Consul. On the morning of the 20th, the boats of the ships above mentioned, consisting of 2 pinnaces carrying 12-pounder guns, 3 cutters, and 5 gigs, with Commander Alan H. Gardner, of the "Waterwitch," Lieutenant Russell Patey, of the "Bloodhound," myself, and Her Majesty's Consul, proceeded to the River Lagos, with the intention of passing up to the town.

The heavy boats not being able to pass the Bar, as it was low water, I beached them on the Point immediately outside, and landed the marines, part of the crews, and the heavy gear, to lighten them. A great number of armed men, with long muskets and short swords, were assembled in the bushes and around the huts that formed the village upon the Point.

* Philomel, Harlequin, Volcano, Niger, Waterwitch, Bloodhound.

The Consul and myself advanced towards these people, who retired behind the huts and stockades, coming to the kneeling position and seemingly ready to fire upon us. Seeing this, I ordered up the marines who had been landed, when some of the Portuguese merchants, who have houses and barracoons upon this Point, came towards us and begged we would not go on to Lagos, as the King's people were ordered to fire upon the boats if they advanced up the river. They told us they were dreadfully excited; had been up all night expecting an attack; were under no command, and that the King could not restrain them. We explained that we were not coming to fight, but to hold a "peaceful palaver," as the flag of truce would show; that if we were attacked we should defend ourselves. The Portuguese, several of whom I had seen before and been on terms of friendship with, said that the King would receive the Consul and myself at Lagos, if we would come up in one boat, and that the people would not fire.

The question to be considered was whether, if we forced the river, and the flag of truce was insulted, we had sufficient force to resent the affront. Lagos is a large town four miles from the Point, containing 10,000 inhabitants, all armed; the river-side has advantages which enable them to fire at our boats without the least possible risk of injury to themselves, having a long sand bank thrown up, and being covered with thick bushes and jungle. At Lagos and along the bank are several guns of different sizes, a long 24-pounder being mounted at the landing-place near the King's house, and all the canoes (amounting to some hundreds) having a small gun in their bows.

Taking into consideration this amount of difficulties and opposition, and considering that the object might be effected by showing confidence in the King and firmness in ourselves, as we could do no effectual damage with such a small force, Her Majesty's Consul determined to leave the escort inside the river bar and proceed to Lagos in my gig, accompanied by Commander Gardner and Lieutenant Russell Patey. The Portuguese held themselves responsible for our reception and safety.

Mr. Beecroft commenced at once the palaver and held out the friendship and alliance of the Queen of England, stating at the same time the advantages to be gained by legitimate trade and lawful commerce, the cruelty of the Slave Trade, and the crimes resulting from such a barbarous traffic.

Kosoko replied that he was entirely under the King of Benin, and that he was not even acknowledged as King by him at present. That the King of Benin must first sign the Treaty; but that if the King of Benin did sign it, he would not. In fact it appeared that the King of Lagos did not wish our alliance and friendship, and would have nothing to do with us in any way.

The palaver ended and we returned to the "Harlequin" the same evening, when Mr. Beecroft resolved to communicate with the senior officer of the Bights Squadron, and call for a larger force to enforce his wishes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. WILMOT.

Inclosure 4 in No. 65.

Consul Beecroft to Commander T. G. Forbes.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 55.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 65.

Minute of Conference with the Chief of Lagos.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 55.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 65.

RETURN of Killed and Wounded of Her Majesty's ships in the attack on Lagos, on the 25th November, 1851,

Ships.	Force of Officers and Men sent to Lagos.	Boats.	Wounded.			Killed and Died of Wounds.	Remarks.
			Dangerously.	Severely.	Slightly.		
Philomel ..	34	Pinnace, 2 whale-boats ..	1	..	1	..	
Harlequin ..	62	Pinnace, cutter, 2 gigs, 1 galley	..	1	1	..	
Volcano ..	45	2 Paddlebox-boats, 1 cutter, 1 gig	..	3	2	..	
Niger ..	75	1 pinnace, 3 cutters, 2 gigs ..	2	5	..	2	
Waterwitch ..	38	Pinnace, whale-boat, gig, canoe	..	..	..	..
Bloodhound ..	52	"Bloodhound" present ..	..	..	..	..
	306	21 and 1 canoe	3	9	4	2	

Inclosure 7 in No. 65.

RETURN of Officers, Seamen, and Marines employed in the Boats of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," in the attack on Lagos, on the 25th of November, 1851.

Description of Boat.	Names of Officers and Number of Men.	Killed.	Wounded.	Remarks.
5-oared Whale-boat	Commander Thos. G. Forbes, officer commanding expedition 5 Seamen 1 Serjeant of Marines			
5-oared Whale-boat	Mr. R. P. Cator, Acting Mate. 5 Seamen 1 Private R.M.			
Pinnace, 12-pounder carronade	Lieutenant G. B. Williams, commanding "Philomel's" boats Fred. Townsend, master's assistant 13 Seamen 4 Marines Dr. A. Mitchell, volunteer to assist in attending on wounded	.. .. Nil	1 1 2	Wm. Walker, quartermaster, wounded dangerously John Peard, boatswain's mate, slightly wounded

No. of Officers in boats	..	..	..	5
Seamen	..	..	..	23
Marines	..	..	..	6
Total	..	..	..	34

Inclosure 8 in No. 65.

Return of Officers, Seamen, and Marines engaged in the Boats of Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin," in the attack on Lagos on the 25th November, 1851.

Pinnace .. Lieutenant C. F. F. Boughay,
Mr. J. H. Haran, assistant surgeon,
14 Seamen,
9 Marines.

Cutter .. Mr. C. R. Tuckey, acting mate,
Mr. J. Walker, boatswain,
10 Seamen,
6 Marines.

Galley .. Commander A. P. E. Wilmot,
Mr. A. Wright, midshipman,
6 Seamen.

1st Gig .. Mr. A. R. Lathbury, midshipman,
Mr. J. N. Wicker, clerk.

2nd Gig .. Mr. C. D. Davies, midshipman,
Mr. E. F. Refell, clerk's assistant,
5 Seamen,
2 Marines.

Wounded.

Thos. Mitchell, (2) A.B., slightly.
John Toze, private Royal Marines, seriously.

(Signed) A. E. WILMOT, *Commander.*
JAMES FISHER, M.D., *Surgeon.*

Inclosure 9 in No. 65.

A List of the Officers and Men employed in the "Volcano's" Boats, together with the Number Wounded.

			Wounded.
Port paddlebox-boat	..	Lieutenant Reeve Mr. Hall, acting paymaster and purser 7 Seamen 2 Stokers 3 Marines 2 Kroomen	1 Krooman, musket-shot in back, severely
Starboard paddlebox-boat	.	Lieutenant Robinson Dr. Ternan M.D., late acting surgeon Mr. Read, master's assistant 6 Seamen 3 Stokers 4 Marines 2 Kroomen	
2nd Cutter	..	Mr. Onslow, midshipman 7 Seamen 3 Marines 1 Krooman	1 Seaman, iron musket-shot in side, severely
1st Gig	..	Commander R. Coote 5 Seamen 1 Marine	None
Total .. 52 employed.			
" .. 5 wounded.			

(Signed) R. COOTE, *Commander.*

Inclosure 10 in No. 65.

RETURN of Officers and Men, and in what Boats dispatched, from Her Majesty's sloop "Niger,"
L. G. Heath, Esq., Commander, in the expedition to Lagos, on the 25th November, 1851,
showing the number Killed and Wounded.

Description of Boat.	Names of the Officers and Number of Men.	Killed.	Wounded.	Remarks.
5-oared Gig ..	Captain L. G. Heath Mr. T. G. Chown, master's assistant 5 Blue-jackets 1 Bombardier, R. M. A.	..	1	Urbane Collett, bombardier, R.M.A. severely wounded
12-oared Pinnace 12-pounder howitzer	Lieutenant M. B. Dunn 13 Blue-jackets 5 Marines	.. ..	2 1	
10-oared Cutter 3-pounder gun	Mr. M. Norman, acting master 11 Blue-jackets 4 Marines			Jno. McCarthy, (2) A.B., badly wounded. Wm. Hall, A.B., severely wounded Chas. Hancock, serjeant R.M.A., dangerously wounded
10-oared Cutter	Mr. J. G. F. Dyer, mate 11 Blue-jackets 4 Marines	1	2 1	
8-oared Cutter ..	Mr. H. H. Hall, mate Mr. C. H. Chambers, assistant surgeon 6 Blue-jackets 1 Marine	1		
5-oared Gig ..	Mr. B. B. Dowling, master's assistant 5 Blue-jackets 1 Marine			
No. of Officers	in boats .. 8 ..	2		
„ Seamen	„ .. 51 ..	..	4	
„ Marines	„ .. 16 ..	..	3	
Total ..	.. 75 ..	2	7	

(Signed)

L. G. HEATH, *Commander.*
H. STUPART, *Surgeon.*

Inclosure 11 in No. 65.

LIST of Officers employed in the Boats of Her Majesty's sloop "Waterwitch," at Lagos,
on 25th November, 1851.

Gig .. Commander Gardner,
Mr. Davidson, gunner,
5 Seamen,
2 Marines.

Pinnace .. Lieutenant Graham,
Mr. Babington, midshipman,
11 Seamen,
5 Marines.

Whaleboat .. Mr. Legg, mate,
Mr. Whitshed, midshipman,
5 Seamen,
2 Marines.

Canoe .. 2 Kroomen.

Total .. 38.

No killed or wounded.

(Signed)

ALAN H. GARDNER, *Commander.*

Inclosure 12 in No. 65.

List of Officers and ship's company, Her Majesty's ship "Bloodhound."

9 Officers,
4 Able seamen,
6 Ordinary seamen,
2 Cooks, stewards, and others,
8 Marines,
5 Stokers,
1 Artificer,
2 Petty officers,
2 Boys, 1st class,
1 „ 2nd class,
12 Kroomen.

52 Total.

(Signed) RUSSELL PATEY, *Lieutenant Commanding.*

Inclosure 13 in No. 65.

Commodore Bruce to Commander T. G. Forbes.

Sir, "Penelope," off Lagos, December 19, 1851.

I HAVE perused your letter of the 27th ultimo, reporting your reasons for having, on the 24th November, sent an armed force with a flag of truce into the River Lagos.

It appears to me, that after the failure of the negotiation on the 20th of that month, an attempt to treat with the present Chief of Lagos upon any terms, was extremely ill-advised.

While I acknowledge the zeal for the honour of the service which I have no doubt actuated you, I cannot, under all the circumstances of the case, approve of your proceedings.

Hostile operations should, unless on occasions requiring immediate notice, be only commenced under the direction of the Commander-in-chief. It would have been quite judicious if you had referred Mr. Beecroft's application to me or to Captain Jones, particularly as I lost no opportunity of making known in the squadron my intention of being here about this date.

I fully appreciate the gallantry of the parties engaged, and regret the loss which the service has sustained by the death of Mr. Dyer and Mr. Hall of the "Niger," and the several men who were wounded in the action.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

No. 66.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Layard.

Sir, Admiralty, February 17, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of two despatches from Commodore Bruce, dated the 20th and 29th of December last, and of their inclosures, reporting the arrival and proceedings of Commander F. E. Forbes at Abbeokuta.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. PARKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 66.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, December 20, 1851.

I REQUEST you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed copy of a letter from Commander F. E. Forbes, dated the 16th ultimo, reporting his arrival in Abbeokuta.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 66.

Commander F. E. Forbes to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

Aki, Abbeokuta, November 16, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to state that on Thursday 13th November, I arrived in Abbeokuta.

I was met at the town of Eawaldeh*, nine miles distant, by the Reverend Messrs. Townsend and Smith, of the Church Mission Society, and the gentlemen of the Wesleyan Mission, at the head of at least 150 Africans in European costume, and many of them on horseback. The scene was most interesting, and exceeded my most sanguine expectation.

The custom of this country would call upon a traveller to send messengers from Eawaldeh to the Chiefs, who, what is termed "meet him," *i. e.*, send representatives, horsemen, and soldiers, to escort him in. A fresh horse being provided (having travelled from Badagry on one I purchased there), I rode into the town in a manner highly becoming to a Christian Mission.

On Friday the 14th Sagbua, the Chief of Chiefs here, called upon me, as did several other chiefs.

On Saturday the 15th a gathering of the horsemen and soldiers came to perform the ceremony of "meeting," and a most interesting sight it was, being particularly novel in this part of Africa. Horsemen in gaudy dresses, on horses showily caparisoned, were galloping about in a confused manner; the whole art of the riders displayed in making his horse kick, rear, and demi-volt as often and in as small a space as possible.

Meanwhile the chiefs assembled, and at noon approached my house.

The whole of the high chiefs, with Sagbua (I am not competent to state out of how many rulers of the Egbas), with the exception of the Obba Shoron, Commander-in-chief, who was sick, being present, I gave the following speech:

"Chiefs of the Egbas,

"You have this day and yesterday apologized for not receiving me according to the custom of your country.

"I rejoice that the ceremony did not take place, and acquaint you that I was received into your town in the highest manner in which an Englishman and a Christian could be received in Africa, namely, by 100 Christians,† clothed in European style. You could not have done more honour had you sent thousands of horsemen and musketmen to meet me. I thank you for the reception; let no apology be made.

"I wish to explain to you the reason of my being sent to Abbeokuta. You are aware that a white man‡ is teaching the Dahomians the art of

* Or, Arweyadeh. I write from sound.

† To be on the safe side, I only quoted 100.

‡ Lieutenant de vaisseau Bouet, chargé d'une mission accrédité au Roi de Daomé. I am aware that he is in Dahomey, I brought out a letter for him. In Badagry the chiefs told me he was teaching the Dahomians to fire off "air-fire" rockets, and guns on wheels, and the same was explained to me here yesterday.

war. The Queen of England, desiring to protect the Egbas who have protected her subjects, has sent me to teach you how to protect yourselves. When I have seen your guns I will explain to you how to make charges for them.

"When I have seen your walls I will point out to you any repairs that can improve them.

"I wish you to understand once for all that I promise to give you nothing.

"There are many obstacles in the way; the distance is great, the beach is often bad at Badagry, and I am only servant of the Queen of England; therefore I cannot and ought not to promise anything. But I will look about, and what I see wanting for the protection of this town I will endeavour to obtain.

"Remember, all things that come for the protection of this place, by whomsoever brought, are sent by the Queen, and not by the messengers themselves; and they are sent as well to protect your town as to protect the British subjects you have protected.

"There are powder and shot on the road, but you must not place too much dependence on that ammunition. It will be served out when opportunity offers; but you must also prepare yourselves. Each man should be ready with his musket and powder to protect his house and the town. I hear you have already made a law to that effect, and I can tell you it is a very creditable law, and pleases me much.

"In this assembly I miss the Obba Shoron; I am sorry he is sick; the palaver I am about to make I should wish to be repeated to him [his representative was introduced].

"When the Dahomians arrive, every man should seize his musket and sally out to the fight, remembering that the army of the Dahomians is partly of 'women;' no man can allow himself tamely to be conquered by a woman. When you sally out you must not let them draw you out too far, lest they outflank you and prevent your return. You must learn the art of war as the Dahomians have learnt it*. I will concert with the war chiefs about that. It is my intention to remain with you to share your honour or your disgrace. I told you I promised nothing, nor do I this; but if not recalled, it is my determination.

"Abbeokuta must not be destroyed. Let the Egbas fight well; your country is under the protection of the Almighty; thanks to the assistance of these gentlemen (the missionaries), who have given to many of you the knowledge of the power of God, and whom you have protected. Egbas! protect yourselves, and the Almighty God will guard you.

"I have finished my palaver, I hope you will all hear it and attend to it."

All thanked me in many expressions†; told me that man, woman, and child, all were delighted at my arrival, and that my speech gave comfort; that they would assemble and carry me round the walls. Let Dahomey come this year, they were ready for him, they would fight him.

I gave them to understand that their own reports and mine agreed, and undoubtedly he would come, and they must prepare.

I consider it in place now to give you a copy of my letter to the Vice-Consul at Whydah, and the inclosure to the King of Dahomey mentioned in my letter No. 1.

"Commander Forbes to Vice-Consul Fraser.

"Sir,

"I am employed on an important mission to Abbeokuta. It is important that the claims I make on His Majesty the King of Dahomey in the event of his succeeding in the ensuing war, should be laid before His Majesty by some trustworthy person. Should it not be convenient for you to deliver the letter in person, I have to request you will be pleased to cause the inclosed letter to be read to His Majesty by some certain and

* During this speech each sentence was given separately, and at the end of each, each chief was asked, Did he hear? and each answered in the affirmative.

† There was no bravado, no gesticulation, no useless expression, but apparently what they intended to do, and nothing more.

interested person, as by misconstruction it might become a dangerous instrument, if possessed by any slave-merchant."

"Commander F. E. Forbes to the King of Dahomey.

"May it please your Majesty,

"Your Majesty is aware of the desire of the Queen of Great Britain to extend and protect the missionary labours in Abbeokuta and in the surrounding countries.

"Your Majesty is also aware that on going to war on Abbeokuta you are partly warring on British subjects.

"I am ordered to proceed to Abbeokuta, there to protect British life and property during the period of your intended invasion of that country.

"I shall be ready to proceed to Abomey, there to receive any intimation from your Majesty regarding a treaty, provided your Majesty will send protection and guides to me at Abbeokuta. I shall be ready to receive messengers from your Majesty at Abbeokuta.

"Over the house in which I reside, which I shall proclaim to be a sanctuary for British subjects, will float the flag of Britain. I shall demand from your Majesty protection for each and every soul whose claims I think fit to set up."

I trust you will approve of my proceedings, and assist my views by following up Commodore Fanshawe's threat read to the Viceroy (Eaboogan, or white man's Minister) of Whydah, for the information of his master the King of Dahomey, to the effect that if the life of a British subject or a Sierra Leone person was taken in the attack, Whydah would suffer in consequence, or words to that effect.

In pursuance with my expressions to the chiefs, I have required of Commander Heath to supply me with two field-pieces and ammunition, and as many congrève rockets as can be spared, to the number of at least twenty-four, and a rocket-tube. These implements of war being in possession of the Dahomians, the Egbas may be panic-stricken at their effect, unless they also possessed them.

I cannot of course describe Abbeokuta; but I am perfectly surprised at all I see. The surrounding country is beautiful and cultivated; the town immense and picturesque, scattered and clustered among granite hills. The walls—none of the best, of mud, and extending over a circumference of about fifteen miles, impossible to fortify.

There is a determination about the Egbas—a knowledge that a deadly combat is at hand; unless surprised or panic-stricken—and I hope to guard them against these—they will, I hope, conquer.

The Egbas are a nation of farmers, and, with the blessings of peace, traders; but that which calls upon Great Britain to make a bold attempt to save Abbeokuta is, that within its walls are several hundred people and Christians. Indeed the missionary accounts I have read did not convey to me so sufficient a reason as my own eyes have witnessed.

I will write more fully when better experienced.

The copy of a letter has been placed into my hands from the chiefs to Lord Palmerston, offering to enter into a treaty of amity and commerce, desiring the Lagos River to be opened to them; I will pay attention to it when I have gained strength by assisting them, and learn more of the policy intended towards Lagos.

Here, as well as Badagry, report is rife, and Akitoye and Lagos terms of continual inquiry.

The rainy season has been late and heavy: the rivers are full, but receding. The King of Dahomey cannot march until his army can cross on foot; he is expected after the middle of next month.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **F. E. FORBES.**

Inclosure 3 in No. 66.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(No. 221.)

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, December 29, 1851.

I REQUEST you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed report of the proceedings of Commander F. E. Forbes at Abbeokuta.

Their Lordships will be pleased with the enthusiastic zeal and energy displayed by this officer. I had desired him to leave Abbeokuta before the King of Dahomey attacks it; but he has earnestly requested me to allow him to remain to witness the result of that event.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 66.

Commander F. E. Forbes to Commodore Bruce.

(Extract.)

Aki, Abbeokuta, December 9, 1851.

ON Monday, 24th November, I assembled the Sierra Leone people, about 1500 men and boys; I may safely state that there are 3000 Sierra Leone, emigrants of all ages and sexes, in Abbeokuta. I inclose a copy of the speech I made them.

I enlisted from their number thirty able-bodied men to act as gunners.

At this moment there are two 6-pounders, one 3-pounder, and two 1-pounder guns mounted, though rudely, but strong, as field-pieces. I have one European and two native carpenters at the work; and the gratitude and astonishment of the natives I can hardly express.

Two field-pieces have been landed from the men-of-war; the chiefs, last night, promised me fifty men to drag them up from Badagry; they will start to-morrow.

The corps before alluded to are now in very fair order, and run the field-pieces well; firing them continually.

Letters from Commander Heath and Mr. Fraser tell me that my letter neither has reached, nor will, His Majesty the King of Dahomey; in that I am nothing disappointed. I am aware that His Majesty is bound by his military subjects to prosecute this war. His whole power is at stake. He must either conquer Abbeokuta or die. He has sworn it, and he must perform it. But he is aware of the contents of that letter, and that is all I require.

The Dahomian army would have been here this full moon, if 200 men the King sent to examine the Opara had found that river fordable. I have the most authentic information of all his actions, although Mr. Fraser and Captain Heath state the road to Whydah is closed to messengers; and the Ikalee people, a town near the Opara, state theirs, and all roads to Abomey, to be closed; that the King is ready, his sacrifices are made; and he only waits for the receding of the waters.

The Ogu is receding fast, and is now nearly fordable.

It requires very much persuasion to get the people to turn out and build up their walls, miles of which were razed by wet and time; the impulse which the daily reports of Dahomey give is strikingly visible, and the wall rising in proportion.

The residents of Badagry state that Kosoko intends invading; I am sceptical as to reports from that place. However, I have done all in my power to prevent it by threatening his assistants, the towns of Igbesa, Otta, and Adu. The messenger starts to-day.

I fully believe and trust that before you receive this the invasion of

Abbeokuta will be past, and this town be either a Golgotha or a field of victory; but should it not be so, I trust you will not imagine that the King of Dahomey can be shaken from his purpose. I have suffered already from these ideas and opinions, and have too much on hand not to endeavour to attempt to put aside difficulties of the kind in the future. It is, therefore, that I request you to consider my information.

I have already, in former communications, given my opinion as regards Lagos; time and circumstances have not altered those ideas with regard to Kosoko and Akitoye. Reports state the deaths of the Lagos people to be very numerous; the English fire murderous in the extreme. I have neither anything to do with the cause, nor inclination to question the effect of the policy.

If the Egbas conquer Dahomey, Lagos will open and Badagry be at rest.

If the Dahomians conquer, the strength of the King, thus added to, will render it difficult for the British to keep any King on the Throne of Lagos.

Instead of Dahomey being dependent on Lagos, as I am informed both from Her Majesty's officers and the residents at Badagry, I know, and time will prove, that the future fate of Lagos depends entirely on the victory or defeat of Dahomey, whatever be the extent of British operations on it.

I hope, Sir, that I am in my performance of the duties I have taken on myself meeting your approbation; I feel that I am doing my duty, and hence persevere in spite of difficulties; and holding one course, have gained great power and respect from the chiefs, elders, and people here, almost amounting to adoration; I only fear they put too much faith in me and my work (the field-pieces), but as I have told them, I trust that the Almighty will protect his own and save this city, for the sake of the Christian souls it contains.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

P.S.—There is one more report I wish to gainsay, which is, that the Egbas would not treat with Kosoko; I have ascertained that they would: all they want is space and the Ogu open to trade. F. E. F.

December 10. I have runners to Lagos once in four days. The first man that fired on the British from Lagos was the chief; he was forced to do it. The report of two being killed, and of the first interview, I detailed to Commander Heath in a private note.

The last messenger to-day states that Kosoko, assisted by the Portuguese, is staking the channel. The following anecdote is also detailed: In Lagos is a peculiarly long brass gun, which is only fired on State occasions; it was fired at the steamer and missed; but the steamer, they say, fired at it, with the intention of putting a shot in it and stopping it; they did not quite do this, but hit the gun, and the splinters (perhaps grape) killed many around the gun.

F. E. F.

Inclosure 5 in No. 66.

Minute of a Speech of Commander Forbes to 1500 Sierra Leone People at Abbeokuta.

November 24, 1851.

I DEMAND of you to fight for the protection of your lives and properties. You know, if Dahomey conquers, the city will be destroyed, your homes desolated, you will be houseless; it is possible I may save your lives, but nothing more.

Your religion, your duty, teach you to trust in God ; but God will not save you without exertion from yourselves ; you must put your trust in Him, and do your utmost to drive the robber Dahomey from your town. You have done so once ; do so again.

You are a great number, and should be all men of some education ; set an example to the Egbas ; show them the advantage of the knowledge the white men have, through God's assistance, ingrafted in you. You fight thus : happiness and peace if you conquer ; desolation and misery if you are defeated !

Let each provide himself with the means of protection ; each emulate the other in war.

As I said to the chiefs, so I say to you : I promise you nothing ; but of the bounty of Her Majesty's Government you shall share.

I want from among you thirty able-bodied men to act as gunners to work field-pieces I intend to mount here, to meet those you know Dahomey is advancing with ; these men will meet twice a-week, Mondays and Fridays, for exercise, and will receive on those days six strings of cowries, or 6*d*.

I have written the King of Dahomey, to tell him the flag of Great Britain will fly over my house, and I shall demand from him, if he conquers, the life of each Sierra Leone man ; so do not run into the bush, or you will be kidnapped ; but seek shelter here. But beware of running before the Egbas, or I will spurn you with my foot, and hold you up as public cowards.

Remember the power of the Almighty ; strengthen your hearts, and at the same time prepare your muskets and powder ; sharpen your swords, and if possible, let not a Dahomian go home to say, 'We went forth to fight the Egbas.

You fight for peace and your families ; the Dahomians for desolation, slavery, and murder.

Sagbua, the Chief of this town, wishes each new arrival to report himself or herself to him, through Mr. Townsend. He, knowing the name, may insure him or her against being kidnapped ; but if the report be not made, how can he be answerable ?

I shall send a copy of this to Sierra Leone, that your friends may hear of you. Farewell.

(Signed) F. E. FORBES.

No. 67.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 17, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, the copy of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated 29th December last, and of its inclosures, reporting the proceedings of Mr. Consul Beecroft at Lagos.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. PARKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 67.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(No. 218.)

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, December 29, 1851.

I REQUEST you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed copy of a despatch from Mr. Beecroft, reporting his proceedings in the River Lagos on the 20th and 25th of November last.

After reading Mr. Beecroft's statements, I see no reason to alter the opinions which I expressed in my despatch to you of the 19th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE

Inclosure 2 in No. 67.

Consul Beecroft to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

"Bloodhound," off Lagos, November 27, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to communicate for your information, that I embarked on board Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound," on the 10th instant, accompanied by King Akitoye and his suite, and arrived off Lagos on the 13th. Communicated with Commander Wilmot, Her Majesty's steamer "Harlequin," who informed me that he had discovered a safe boat-channel into the River Ogu; and he had visited Kosoko, the present Chief of Lagos, and was kindly received. That it was his impression that he would accede to my terms if proposed. It appeared to me a favourable opportunity to enter into a negotiation with the said Chief at once.

The same evening Her Majesty's brig "Waterwitch," Commander Gardner, arrived to relieve Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Harlequin."

After a short conference I decided upon entering into negotiation, in compliance with Viscount Palmerston's despatches dated October 11, 1850, and February 20 and 21, 1851.

It was arranged, in conjunction with Commanders Wilmot, Gardner, and Lieutenant-Commander Russell Patey, as there were on board Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound," 200 muskets for the protection of Abbeokuta, that I should proceed immediately for Badagry, land the muskets, and deliver Commander Wilmot's letter to Commander Coote, Her Majesty's steamer "Volcano," ordering him to proceed to Lagos, so as to enable him to form a respectable escort under a flag of truce to the present Chief of Lagos, to whom I addressed a letter, and left it with Commander Wilmot to forward.

Nov. 14. Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound" weighed at 11 o'clock, and anchored off Badagry at 4 p.m. Fired a gun, and hoisted a signal for a canoe; did not succeed in getting one off until next morning.

Saturday 15th.—I landed at 10 o'clock accompanied by Lieutenant-Commander Patey and King Akitoye; he was received with demonstrations of unbounded joy. Shortly after landing I held a conference with him and his chiefs relative to Lagos and his accompanying me. It was soon arranged that he should accompany me.

The flints and muskets could not be completed landing until Monday. I embarked again on Tuesday the 18th, at 3.30 p.m., and anchored off Lagos at 8.30 p.m. No "Volcano."

Commanders Wilmot and Gardner came on board. It was arranged

to start with all boats, ten in number, from Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin," at 9 o'clock, to proceed at once to the town of Lagos.

19th. Daylight, strange symptoms of a tornado showed themselves. 9-30, it came down in torrents of rain, and continued so long, that our visit to Kosoko was deferred until next day.

20th. Daylight, fine day; we left Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin" at 6-30, with ten boats under a flag of truce. Landed at a sandy point at the eastern entrance of the river, to wait for the water rising, to enable the heavy boats to enter. There are on this point a group of small huts, and two stores belonging to Senhores Marcos and Nobre, Brazilians.

A messenger arrived from Kosoko and stated that if we proceeded to the town with so many boats, we would be fired upon; it was his wish that one boat only should go. I remonstrated with Senhor Marcos, on the entire absurdity of Kosoko preventing a proper escort to accompany Her Majesty's Representatives on a mission of peace and amity; that it was a national form of all the nations in the world. Senhor Marcos said that he had remonstrated with Kosoko to no avail, he would not listen to any other sentiment but what he first stated. I was on the point of returning, but after mature deliberation, I told the messenger, through my interpreter, that one boat was not sufficient to take the officers intended for the conference; I would come with two boats, well knowing at the same time that we should be placed in imminent danger in the hands of such a blood-thirsty chief as Kosoko. We had to wait an hour; the messenger returned with his permission. There were on this point of sand 100 armed men, sent no doubt to watch our movements.

Senhores Marcos and Nobre, I must state, were very attentive. 10 o'clock, we started in the "Harlequin" and "Waterwitch's" gigs. Senhor Marcos accompanied me, and Commander Wilmot, Commander Gardner, and Lieutenant Patey, and my interpreter, in the other gig. We arrived at the town at 11-30, and were ushered into Senhor Marcos' house; there kept in suspense for two hours before we were ushered into the presence of the Chief, Kosoko. He was surrounded with armed men, with a host of retainers on each side of the court-yard.

I opened the conference by saluting him, stating that I was much pleased having an opportunity given me, as the Queen of England's Representative, of communicating to him the purport of my mission.

Firstly.—Was the Chief desirous to become the friend and ally of England by signing a treaty for the suppression of foreign Slave Trade within the limits of his territories. He said he was not his own master, but under the King of Benin. His Prime Minister, Tappa, spoke and said that he would not sign any paper with England, he, Kosoko, was not desirous to have her friendship.

I again asked the Chief, supposing his master, the King of Benin, signed the Treaty, if he was not prepared to do the same; he distinctly stated that he would not enter into any treaty with the English, and did not desire their friendship. I said, "you have acknowledged the King of Benin to be your chief." He said, he had not to the present date received any power or authority from him to rule as King of Lagos; he repeated it, the King might sign a treaty, but he, Kosoko, would not, nor had he any desire to do so.

It is quite certain that the King of Benin will not give him that power so long as he knows Akitoye is alive, for he holds the emblems of power sent him by the late and present King of Benin, who was crowned at that city when I was in that river last March. Of the further details of this conference, I send herewith a copy*.

Finding, after our conference, that our terms were rejected, it was decided to collect such a show of force as the moment could supply, with the firm belief that such force, judging from the character of African chiefs, would have the effect by simple demonstration of our power, of causing him to accede to our terms. We entered the river with a flag of truce at the mast-head of Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound," and headmost boat. On entering the river they opened fire on us from the sandy point at the eastern entrance of the river; but three guns were fired by

* See Inclosure 2 in No. 55.

the "Bloodhound" at what was considered outposts, firing without authority. The flags of truce were kept flying until off the town, when the fire from the shore became so galling as to render the flags of truce nugatory. On being hauled down by us, a general fire in return was opened from us by the boats and by Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound;" the latter's assistance as a cover for the two boats was unfortunately lost by her grounding at high-water within range of the town, but not sufficiently so to afford that support to the boats that was so necessary.

The waters were cleared of canoes, and a considerable part of the town burnt, but the mud-walls and narrow streets afforded so great an advantage to the enemy, who were swarming in vast numbers and proved themselves such good marksmen, that it was thought advisable to recall the people to their boats, as our people suffered much.

The "Bloodhound" remained on shore until high-water, when she was hove off into two and a half fathoms, and remaining for the night.

The senior officer and a part of the boats left the river for their ships. The following morning early the expedition was withdrawn. I refer you to Commander Forbes's despatch for further details, and what will be required for the next attack.

I am glad to state that the river at this season is as easy of access as the River Benin.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 67.

Consul Beecroft to the Chief of Lagos.

HER Britannic Majesty's Representative, John Beecroft, Esquire, accompanied by a naval escort, desires to hold a peaceful conference with the present Chief of Lagos. He hopes, therefore, that the Chief of Lagos will be prepared to receive him and the English officers who will accompany him, with that great respect and honour which the power and pure motives of England demand.

The Chief of Lagos will be informed one day previous to the intended conference, which will be immediately after Her Majesty's Representative's return from Badagry.

A reply to this is required as early as possible, and sent to Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin," Commander Wilmot, now lying off Lagos.

Given under my hand, this 14th day of November, 1851.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

No. 68.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 17, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated the 29th of December last, and of a letter which he had addressed to the King of Dahomey.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. PARKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 68.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(No. 223.)

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, December 29, 1851.

I REQUEST you will lay before the Lords of the Admiralty the accompanying copy of a letter which I have addressed to Guezo, King of Dahomey.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 68.

Commodore Bruce to the King of Dahomey.

Sir,

"Penelope," Whydah, December 17, 1851.

IN June last you requested that a soldier with a good head might be sent to Abomey to hear something which you wished to be repeated to the Queen, my Sovereign.

Under the impression that you were about to yield to the voice of reason and humanity, and accede to an agreement for the suppression of the infamous Traffic in Slaves, on the terms which were proposed to you by Commander F. E. Forbes and Mr. Beecroft in 1850, Mr. Fraser, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Whydah, complied with your request, and proceeded to Abomey, where, instead of the good result he hoped for, he learnt that your object in seeking the presence of an Englishman at your capital, was to instruct him to convey your application to the Queen for arms and ammunition to enable you to carry on a war against Abbeokuta.

Now you must be aware, because you have been told it repeatedly, that the men of Abbeokuta are looked upon with favour by the British Government, for the reason that they are assisting in the suppression of the Slave Trade; and, therefore, the Queen of England has commanded, not only that no assistance should be given to you, to the prejudice of the Abbeokutians, but in consequence of your former attack on these people, your obstinacy in continuing to sell slaves to the Europeans living in Dahomey who are engaged in that Traffic, and your abominable practice of murdering prisoners on public festivals and other occasions, that your town of Whydah and the coast on the neighbourhood be blockaded, so as to prevent your having any trade, or receiving any supplies whatever from the sea; which blockade is to continue so long as you adhere to your present evil courses.

You have set at nought the many warnings which you have received from the Queen's Government, Commodore Fanshawe, and myself. You are now to be shown that these were not idle words, but meant, in the spirit of friendship, to put you on your guard against listening to the counsel of the slave-traders, who consult their own personal interest, and not your honour and prosperity.

By coming yourself without delay to Whydah, or by sending duly authorized messengers to enter into such a Treaty as I am empowered to make for the total suppression of the Slave Trade, and by preserving peace with Abbeokuta, you may yet save your country and yourself from the ruin and destruction which await it and you.

How can you hope for success in your present course? The Brazilians have given up the Slave Trade, so also have the Spaniards. If you had your barracoons full of slaves you could not sell them to these people, even at one dollar each; properly speaking, you are required not to renew the Slave Trade, for at this moment it may be said to be suppressed.

Dahomey is stated to be rich in various productions useful to the merchants of Europe and America. Let your subjects turn their attention

to these, and to the cultivation of the land and its produce, and you will have the support and encouragement of all civilized nations.

The advantageous terms which were formerly offered to you cannot now be given, that is to say, you will not receive any pecuniary compensation from the British Government. If you continue still to hold out, the English will be your enemies; and your brother African Chiefs will be leagued against you to destroy you.

Should you be desirous of retaining your position as King of Dahomey, leave the Abbeokutians to themselves, and prove yourself worthy of the goodwill of the Queen of England.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

No. 69.

Consul Beecroft to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 16.)

My Lord,

"Bloodhound," off Lagos, January 3, 1852.

I HAVE the honour to communicate to your Lordship my proceedings since my last, dated the 26th November, off this place.

On the evening of the 30th, boats from Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin," Commander Wilmot, and Her Majesty's steamer "Volcano," Commander Coote, landed on the point at the eastern entrance of the river, and destroyed the barracoons, by fire, belonging to Senhores Marcos, Nobre, and Lima, Brazilians.

1st ultimo, weighed with "Volcano's" boats in tow. Joined her next day off Porto Novo; from thence proceeded and anchored off Badagry. At sunset, next day, landed a field-piece for Abbeokuta. Weighed the same day and proceeded to Fernando Po. Anchored in Clarence Cove on the 7th ultimo; completed coal and water, and left on the 13th, with my iron galley in tow. Anchored off Lagos on the 17th, near Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel." Next day, early, anchored Her Majesty's steamer "Sampson," Captain Jones. The same day arrived Her Majesty's steamer "Penelope," Commodore Bruce. Waited on the Commodore; he informed me that he had received orders to attack Lagos, and place Akitoye on the throne; also to notify a general blockade from 1° to 4° 30' east, after the 1st instant. Finding that I had landed Akitoye at Badagry after the first attack, he requested me to proceed at once for him, and endeavour to bring him; also to ascertain how many men he could bring under arms. Weighed and proceeded immediately, under steam. Anchored off Badagry early on the 19th ultimo. Landed, and had an interview with Akitoye; he was anxious to accompany me. I requested him to send all his men under arms as soon as he could get them together; they came the same afternoon, and were mustered, 630 in number; it was arranged they should leave on Sunday evening, the 21st, and proceed along the sea-beach to the western entrance of the River Lagos or Ogu, and display their flag. Akitoye embarked with me on the 20th, and anchored off Lagos next day at 10 A.M.

Monday, preparing for the attack. Tuesday, 10 A.M., saw Akitoye's flag flying on the western point, surrounded by his people from Badagry. I crossed the Bar, accompanied by Lieutenant Patey, in "Bloodhound's" gig, and communicated with them; informed them the "Bloodhound" would cross the Bar as soon as we returned on board; they informed me they had been attacked, passing the village Ageedoo, which is an ally of Kosoko. Lost two men, had several wounded; they drove them out and destroyed the village. 3.30 P.M., "Bloodhound" crossed the Bar and anchored inside near the royal troops. 5.30, Captain Jones and "Sampson's" boats arrived.

24th. This morning went on shore and mustered the troops; distributed to each a white favour, to distinguish them from the opposite party; issued them one pound of bread each, and told them

as soon as the town was on fire they must be ready to land. 3 P.M., weighed and dropped up abreast of the sites of the barracoons; sent two life-boats and cutter, in command of Lieutenant Saumarez, to proceed on shore and launch the six or seven sea-going canoes and bring them alongside, covered by the "Bloodhound's" guns. Succeeded in getting them alongside without a shot from the enemy; they were in the bush. Sent them to the troops, to transport themselves across the mouth of Badagry creek, so as to enable them to march opposite the town and take up a position.

Weighed and dropped up the river; anchored out of range of their big guns and musketry; returned a few shots from "Bloodhound." 5 P.M. Her Majesty's steamer "Teazer" anchored, accompanied by Her Majesty's steamer "Penelope's" boats, and my iron galley fitted as a rocket-boat, besides one brass 6-pounder.

25th. Christmas-day. Remained at rest. A great number of the enemy got as near as they could, and fired musketry for some time undisturbed, until they were tired wasting powder and shot. It was arranged to start at daylight next morning. "Teazer" to follow "Bloodhound."

Friday 26th. Weighed at 6 o'clock, and proceeded, passing under a very heavy fire of big guns and musketry; formidably stockaded with cocoa-nut trees, four feet from the outer to the inner, filled between with sand; men were planted, not more than three feet apart, for nearly two miles, behind embankments. Arrived off the town. Shallow water; took the ground. Several were hit, running the gauntlet; a spent shot hit me and dropped on the deck; I picked it up. Opened fire on the town from "Bloodhound" and "Sampson's" boats. As the smoke cleared away saw the "Teazer" unfortunately aground, nearly in the same position as "Bloodhound" was aground at the first attack. She was within range of several of the enemy's big guns; her 32-pounder not able to return a shot.

Captain Lyster had no other alternative but to send a party to spike those guns to save the "Teazer." 223 officers, seamen, and marines, landed, and succeeded in spiking them; on returning to their boats, an overwhelming force rushed upon them sword in hand; escaped with an awful loss of 80 or 90 killed and wounded, life-boat and howitzer, and 2 men left behind. It was reported they were awfully mutilated, and their heads cut off and sent to Kosoko. It was committed by Obella-oboo-joo, the head war-chief that commanded where the spiking party landed.

Saturday 27th.—"Teazer" under weigh, with boats in tow to join "Bloodhound." 7.15, fire opened on "Teazer," from shore; she returned it. 7.20, commenced firing from "Bloodhound." 7.45, "Teazer" again grounded. 7.50, fire of musketry commenced from shore at boat going to "Teazer." 8 o'clock, "Teazer" afloat, proceeded up the river. 8.20, "Teazer" anchored astern of "Bloodhound," off Tapaa's Point. 9.20, gig arrived from flag-ship in charge of Lieut. Marshall. 9.30, Commander Coote arrived from "Volcano." 10.30, fired house on shore from rocket-boat. 1.55, "Waterwitch's" boats arrived, bringing with them an Abbeokutian with despatches, &c. 2 o'clock, from rocket-boat fired magazine on shore; cheered boat; a great explosion, followed up by shells, and made an awful havoc. It was a death-blow to Tapaa, the head chief next to Kosoko. 2.43, remainder of "Waterwitch's" boats arrived, accompanied by Commander Gardner. 3 P.M., boats sent to reconnoitre and fire shell at the Chief's house; rocket-boat fired twice; it finished the affair, as informed next morning.

Sunday 28th. Daylight, all serene and quiet; not a solitary sound of a gun. After breakfast the second chief of the small village opposite came on board, and informed me that we were conquerors; the town was totally evacuated.

My Lord, I am proud to state the "Victoria" you did me the honour to allow me for my use, has done her share in causing the total abandonment and conquest of Lagos and Kosoko, who has for six years sat on a throne of iniquity and blood. 5 P.M., I went on shore accompanied by Captain Jones, and other officers of the expedition, to visit the trenches, &c. Had an engineer from Woolwich been on the spot it could not have been

better planned: strong stockades, and ditches without, with trenches within, deep with their sleeping mats, fire, water, and provisions; and at every point an enfilading piece of ordnance; they must have used every energy and perseverance for an attack; the beach was fenced within 15 yards, having 5 or 6 feet for canoes at a narrow entrance near Chief Tappa's house.

Monday 29th. 6 o'clock, Commanders Coote, Gardner, and a squadron of boats sent to bring off guns. 10 o'clock, Captain Jones, myself, and King Akitoye left Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound," in "Sampson's" gig, accompanied by two cutters; proceeded in procession to the King's house. Landed, and took possession; found great destruction and havoc of property, broken furniture and glass; the exterior has suffered but very little injury. After remaining some time conferring with him relative to his sending a crier round to proclaim, in justice to the rightful King, that a free pardon will be granted to all that return to their homes and allegiance, 1.15, Captain Jones and myself returned through the town; found it nearly half-destroyed by fire, and totally deserted by the enemy. 3.15, a canoe, with a white flag in the bow and a Brazilian ensign flying astern, came alongside with Senhor Marcos. He had a short conference with Captain Jones. He requested permission to be allowed to land at his house to look after his property; it was not granted. He referred him to the Commodore on Thursday. He was told he had opportunities enough before the attack to claim protection; but I presume they considered themselves safe behind their stockades, ditches, and trenches. He took his leave. 5.30, Captain Jones and myself went on shore to visit Akitoye and to arrange about placing a guard round his house. 7.20, we returned; employed getting ship afloat.

Tuesday 30th. Daylight, dispatched "Volcano's" and "Waterwitch's" boats across the Bar to join their respective ships, having in tow canoes with captured guns. 10.15, Captain Jones and myself proceeded to the King's house; I again advised him to send a drum and crier round the island to proclaim forgiveness to all that would come and swear allegiance to their right and lawful King. Stragglers coming in; allies occupying the town. 4 o'clock, returned on board. "Teazer" ordered to cross the Bar; getting under weigh, grounded.

Wednesday 31st. 6.30, Captain Jones and myself landed at the village of Egoorah and the adjacent villages; called on the chiefs and people, and intimated to them the cause of the attack on Kosoko. He was invited to sign a treaty for the suppression of the foreign Slave Trade, which he refused; they all appeared pleased and delighted at Akitoye's instalment again. We walked across the Island of Echalli, about two miles, and visited Ohlotoo's village; it was totally abandoned. I was told Akitoye has already sent a message to him to return to his allegiance. Spiked a gun on the beach used against the Abbeokutians, when they may at any time from the opposite bank make an attack on Lagos, or his village. Saw a number of men on the opposite bank; we were told they were Abbeokutians; crossed the lagoon, hailed them, and ascertained who they were; all right. We landed; found 151 armed men, with Obgunmalah, their chief, sent from Abbeokuta to King Akitoye, and to communicate with white men (English), and to take any orders they had to give. Captain Jones got a volunteer to carry a bag of despatches from Commodore Bruce to Commander Forbes. The chief expressed a wish to see Akitoye; he ordered one of the cutters to take the chief and two or three others of them on board of the "Bloodhound;" we returned in the gig. On board the chief informed me a great number of the people of Lagos had taken a position on the left bank of the Ogu, at a village called Caddão, to annoy or intercept boats or canoes that may desire to proceed by that route to Abbeokuta. 10.20, returned on board; "Teazer" still aground. 1.30, Captain Jones and myself, accompanied by Lieutenant Patey and Mr. Mc Arthur, Lieutenant R. M. A., proceeded to the King's mansion, and succeeded in getting a treaty signed for the suppression of the foreign Slave Trade, &c. I requested him and his two chiefs to hold themselves in readiness; at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning, a boat would be sent for them to embark on board the "Bloodhound," to cross the Bar to wait on Com-

modore Bruce, to finish the treaty already begun. It was arranged as they willingly consented to go off.

Whilst there a messenger arrived from two of the principal chiefs, Ageeneah and Palu, stating if King Akitoye would grant them a free pardon, they would return to their allegiance, for they had lost their all, and were without a wrapper, and begged Akitoye to send them one each. Akitoye requested Captain Jones to write to them that they should be pardoned on their return. The King appears to be attached to Ageeneah, but not to Palu. The messenger further stated that the moment the magazine was struck with a rocket from the "Victoria," the explosion took place, and was followed up by shells and round-shot. The slaughter was awful, and Tappa's house burnt; he was in an awful state of consternation; he went to Kosoko, and told him firmly he was determined to give up—he could not withstand such awful missiles any longer. Kosoko told him to cease firing, and bury the dead; they would abandon the town during the night, which was certainly done. By the report, Kosoko, Tappa, Palu and Ageeneah went off together; they were at no great distance from Lagos. Kosoko anxious that they should swear to be true to each other, and never rest until they had Akitoye's head. The two latter said they would not swear, they had already suffered too much; they were not desirous to continue any longer enemies to the English. They were called cowards; swords were drawn, and a scuffle ensued with the two parties; Kosoko and Tapaa made off with 300 or 400 men towards Yaboo, on Benin side; most of his slaves left him. I cannot vouch for the truth of this account.

Thursday, January 1, 1852.—9 o'clock, King Akitoye and his two chiefs arrived. 10·15, weighed, and proceeded. 12 o'clock, anchored inside of the Bar. 2·30, weighed, and proceeded across; "Teazer" in company astern; anchored near Her Majesty's steamer "Penelope." Akitoye and chiefs accompanied me on board of flag-ship; a salute was fired from Her Majesty's brig "Waterwitch," on account of wounded on board of "Penelope." They were very kindly received by the Commodore, and invited below to the after-cabin. The Treaty was signed—the original I herewith inclose. After a short conference they took their leave in the flag-ship's cutter, and crossed; a large canoe was in waiting within the Bar.

I trust what has been done will meet with your Lordship's approbation. I beg leave to state I write these proceedings in great haste, to go by Her Majesty's steamer "Sampson." As I close this despatch, "Philomel's" boat arrived from off Whydah, with a letter to the Commodore from Commander Forbes of the above-mentioned vessel, stating that Guezo, the King of Dahomey, had requested Vice-Consul Fraser, with a naval officer, to proceed to Abomey; Commander Forbes has accordingly followed Mr. Fraser. It appears he is anxious at once to enter into a treaty; if so, the blockade and the conquest of Lagos has had some effect in changing his policy in two or three days; for in a brief note from Vice-Consul Fraser, dated the 23rd ultimo, he stated his liberty was stopped for a day or two.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure in No. 69.

Engagement with the King and Chiefs of Lagos.

Engagement between Her Majesty the Queen of England and the King and Chiefs of Lagos, for the abolition of the Traffic in Slaves. Signed at Lagos, on board H.M.S. "Penelope," on the 1st day of January, 1852.

COMMODORE HENRY WILLIAM BRUCE, Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels on the west coast of Africa, and John Beecroft, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul in the Bights of Benin and Biafra,

on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and the King and Chiefs of Lagos and of the neighbourhood, on the part of themselves and of their country, have agreed upon the following Articles and Conditions :—

ARTICLE I.

The export of slaves to foreign countries is for ever abolished in the territories of the King and Chiefs of Lagos; and the King and Chiefs of Lagos engage to make and to proclaim a law prohibiting any of their subjects, or any person within their jurisdiction, from selling or assisting in the sale of any slave for transportation to a foreign country; and the King and Chiefs of Lagos promise to inflict a severe punishment on any person who shall break this law.

ARTICLE II.

No European or other person whatever shall be permitted to reside within the territory of the King and Chiefs of Lagos for the purpose of carrying on in any way the Traffic in Slaves; and no houses, or stores, or buildings of any kind whatever, shall be erected for the purpose of Slave Trade within the territory of the King and Chiefs of Lagos; and if any such houses, stores, or buildings shall at any future time be erected, and the King and Chiefs of Lagos shall fail or be unable to destroy them, they may be destroyed by any British officers employed for the suppression of Slave Trade.

ARTICLE III.

If at any time it shall appear that Slave Trade has been carried on through or from the territory of the King and Chiefs of Lagos, the Slave Trade may be put down by Great Britain by force upon that territory, and British officers may seize the boats of Lagos found anywhere carrying on the Slave Trade; and the King and Chiefs of Lagos will be subject to a severe act of displeasure on the part of the Queen of England.

ARTICLE IV.

The slaves now held for exportation shall be delivered up to any British officer duly authorized to receive them, for the purpose of being carried to a British colony, and there liberated; and all the implements of Slave Trade, and the barracoons, or buildings exclusively used in the Slave Trade, shall be forthwith destroyed.

ARTICLE V.

Europeans or other persons now engaged in the Slave Trade, are to be expelled the country; the houses, stores, or buildings hitherto employed as slave factories, if not converted to lawful purposes within three months of the conclusion of this Engagement, are to be destroyed.

ARTICLE VI.

The subjects of the Queen of England may always trade freely with the people of Lagos in every article they may wish to buy and sell in all the places, and ports, and rivers within the territories of the King and Chiefs of Lagos, and throughout the whole of their dominions; and the King and Chiefs of Lagos pledge themselves to show no favour, and give no privilege to the ships and traders of other countries, which they do not show to those of England.

ARTICLE VII.

The King and Chiefs of Lagos declare that no human beings shall, at any time, be sacrificed within their territories, on account of religious or other ceremonies; and that they will prevent the barbarous practice of murdering prisoners captured in war.

ARTICLE VIII.

Complete protection shall be afforded to missionaries, or ministers of the Gospel, of whatever nation or country, following their vocation of spreading the knowledge and doctrines of Christianity, and extending the benefits of civilization within the territory of the King and Chiefs of Lagos. Encouragement shall be given to such missionaries or ministers in the pursuits of industry, in building houses for their residence, and schools and chapels. They shall not be hindered or molested in their endeavours to teach the doctrines of Christianity to all persons willing and desirous to be taught; nor shall any subjects of the King and Chiefs of Lagos, who may embrace the Christian faith, be, on that account, or on account of the teaching or exercise thereof, molested or troubled in any manner whatsoever. The King and Chiefs of Lagos further agree to set apart a piece of land, within a convenient distance of the principal towns, to be used as a burial-ground for Christian persons. And the funerals and sepulchres of the dead shall not be disturbed in any way or upon any account.

ARTICLE IX.

Power is hereby expressly reserved to the Government of France to become a party to this Treaty, if it shall think fit, agreeably with the provision contained in the Vth Article of the Convention between Her Majesty and the King of the French for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, signed at London, May 29, 1845.

In faith of which we have hereunto set our hands and seals, at Lagos, on board H.B.M. ship "Penelope," this 1st day of January, 1852.

(Signed)

H. W. BRUCE.

JOHN BEECROFT.

KING ^{his} ~~X~~ AKITOYE.

ATCHOBOO ^{his} ~~X~~ _{mark}

KOSAE ^{his} ~~X~~ _{mark}

Witnesses :

LEWIS T. JONES, *Captain, H.M.S. "Sampson."*

H. LYSTER, *Captain, H.M.S. "Penelope."*

W. HICKMAN, *Secretary to Commander-in-chief.*

No. 70.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 16, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated the 2nd January, and of its inclosures, reporting the proceedings attending the attack on and capture of Lagos.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. PARKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 70.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(No. 10.)

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, January 2, 1852.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that their Lordships' instructions of the 14th October, and the wishes of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, as far as respects Lagos, have been faithfully fulfilled by the expulsion of the slave-dealing Chief, Kosoko, and his people; the utter destruction of his town; and the establishment of the friendly Chief, Akitoye, with his followers, in the seat of power at Lagos.

By my letter of December 19, 1851, their Lordships are aware that Kosoko very recently rejected the proffered friendship of England, and that he opposed with fire and sword the approach of a flag of truce proceeding to his seat of government with Mr. Consul Beecroft, who offered to negotiate and to advise with him, and who was merely attended by an escort of armed boats, scarcely or problematically sufficient for his personal safety among savages.

I therefore determined to send a strong and well-organized force to punish this refractory chief; and having, through the untiring energy and exertions of Mr. Beecroft, procured the attendance of Akitoye, and nearly 500 of his followers, near the scene of action, ready to take advantage of a clear sweep when we should make it, I concerted measures with Captain Lewis T. Jones, of the "*Sampson*," and Captain Henry Lyster, of this ship, who both were volunteers on the occasion, and intrusted the detail and execution of the service to Captain Jones, seconded by Captain Lyster; and their Lordships will see, from the accompanying reports, the complete success with which the enterprise has been crowned.

I am at a loss to do justice to the chivalrous bearing and devoted bravery of these two officers: Captain Jones, who, commanding the expedition, was no less conspicuous for his gallantry and firmness than for his judgment and energy; and Captain Lyster, who, finding himself by unavoidable circumstances, exposed in the "*Teazer*" to be summarily destroyed by the enemy's guns, made a noble rush into the midst of armed hosts on shore, and, with his undaunted followers, spiked the obnoxious guns and turned the fortune of the day at that point. It is to be borne in mind that our people could expect no quarter; nor did they get any.

I should come short of my duty did I not bring before the notice of their Lordships, the ardent and devoted gallantry exhibited during this very severe affair by officers and men. The responsible post which Captain Lyster filled cost him a severe wound, happily not dangerous; Commander Hillyar, of this ship, who charged with him, is severely but not dangerously wounded; Lieutenants Edward Marshall and T. D. Rich, each in command of a paddlebox-boat, exhibited heroism and firmness never surpassed. Lieutenant John Corbett, in command of Mr. Beecroft's iron boat with rockets, with his own hands spiked the guns, receiving a shot in his arm after doing so, and had five severe wounds before the affair ended. Lieutenant Williams, R.M.A., was dangerously wounded; and Mr. Frederick Fletcher, midshipman, commanding one of the cutters appointed to guard the boats when on shore, defended them to the last, and fell with two balls in his forehead. With the other division, Lieutenant Saumarez, of the "*Sampson*," received a dangerous wound, while encouraging his men; and Mr. Richards, midshipman of that ship, got his death-wound.

The conduct of Lieutenant Patey, commanding the "*Bloodhound*," and Lieutenant Leckie, commanding the "*Teazer*," and the success attending their efforts, is beyond all praise. Besides their annihilating fire, their vessels were a rallying-point for the respective divisions of boats, and were conspicuously instrumental in the attainment of victory,

reflecting infinite credit on all belonging to them. Commander Coote, of the "Volcano," and Commander Gardner, of the "Waterwitch," with their detachments, contributed, as soon as they arrived, to the labours of the hour with an energy and zeal well worthy of them.

Nothing could exceed the devotion of the officers of the medical staff to the exigencies of the day: Mr. Richard Carpenter, Surgeon; Mr. Walling and Mr. Sproule, Assistant Surgeons of this ship; Dr. Barclay, Acting Surgeon of the "Sealark;" and Mr. Morgan and Mr. Pendrith, Assistant Surgeons of the "Sampson." Wherever a man was struck in the boats, a medical officer was immediately by his side, setting their own lives at naught when compared with the wants of their brave companions in arms. Mr. Walling and Mr. Sproule landed at the charge, with their comrades under Captain Lyster.

Mr. Beecroft, during all the operations, was on board the "Bloodhound," and gave every assistance that his advice and experience could afford.

I cannot withhold the expression of my regret for the very severe loss which has attended this achievement, but in which I trust their Lordships will feel that the dignity of England has been asserted and the honour of the flag gloriously sustained.

The inclosures with this despatch will afford all further information.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 70.

Captain Jones to Commodore Bruce.

*"Bloodhound," off the North Point of Lagos,
December 29, 1851.*

Sir,

IN my letter to you dated the 27th, I had the extreme gratification of reporting to you the entire and complete success of the expeditionary forces which you did me the honour of placing under my command, upon which event permit me sincerely to congratulate you.

It now becomes my duty to represent to you in an official form, my proceedings since leaving the "Sampson," and to thank you for allowing me hitherto to keep you acquainted with these movements by private notes as opportunities offered.

In entering into the various details arising from the nature of the service of the several divisions, and to do justice to all, and particularize those who have had the opportunity particularly to distinguish themselves, I feel that I shall be obliged to write rather a long despatch in the form of a daily journal, commencing on the day of my crossing the Bar of Lagos on the 23rd, to the subjugation of our opponents on the 29th December, and finally rejoining you on the 1st January.

You are aware, Sir, that on the 28th December, in pursuance of your orders to place the "Sampson" in the most advantageous position for throwing shells occasionally across the lagoon, I moored the ship as near as possible at the back of the surf, and then with the boats of the "Sampson," crossed the Bar, preceded by "Bloodhound," and anchored off Point Bruce for the night. On the morning of the 24th, in company with Akitoye and Mr. Beecroft, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bights, I mustered and inspected the Badagry and Abbeokutian forces; at the time of muster numbering 500, and increasing during the day to 640. To these we distributed as a mark of recognition, a white neck-tie, with which they seemed much pleased. I then ordered that these men should be supplied with three days' bread from the "Bloodhound." At 2 P.M. the "Bloodhound" weighed and crossed to the opposite side of the river, where the boats of the "Sampson," under the orders of Lieutenant T. Saumarez, were sent to launch all the canoes at the slave station on the left bank worth bringing

off. At 3 o'clock, Lieutenant Saumarez returned, having in a very short time launched 7 large and 2 small canoes; a most desirable acquisition for the conveyance of the auxiliary forces. The landing party was covered by the guns of the "Bloodhound" right and left, and over-head, to check the advance of an armed force seen from the mast-head advancing. This service being finished, the "Bloodhound" dropped up the river with the tide for the purpose of acquiring piloting knowledge and examining the lines of defence. Three guns from the south end of the island opened on her; the fire was exceedingly well directed, but faulty in elevation. We now knew the channel, and therefore steamed down. At 3:30 P.M., true to time and promise, the "Teazer," accompanying the boats of the "Penelope," were seen crossing the Bar; and at 5, "Bloodhound" and "Teazer" anchored near together, out of range of the enemy's shot. Captain Lyster immediately came on board, and placed himself under my orders; we then consulted and decided on the plan of attack, as shown by Paper 3, and that the auxiliaries should keep on the right bank of the river, proceeding up as the steam-vessels advanced. The force now assembled consisted of the men and guns specified in No. 2 paper. The day was too far gone to commence the attack, and we also determined that Christmas-Day should be a day of rest; and the 25th was a quiet day, with the exception of the enemy wasting a vast deal of ammunition.

26th. The plan of attack was the suggestion of Captain Lyster, that we should pass the lines of defence as quickly as convenient, and round the north point of the island, and at that point make the grand attack, it being there that Kosoko and the slave-dealers reside, and to let them have the first punishment. The line of sea-defence extends from the south point of the Island of Lagos to the north point along the west front, a distance of nearly two miles, and in parts where the water is sufficiently deep for boats to land, stakes in double rows are driven in six-foot water, and along the whole of this distance an embankment and ditch for the protecting of infantry, and at chosen points, stockades exceedingly strong, made from stout cocoa-nut trees, were erected for guns, the guns being laid for the difficult points of the passage. We could count 4 guns so placed, since found to be 25.

6. Our work being clear before us, the "Bloodhound" weighed at dawn of day on the 26th, and with the "Sampson's" boats in two divisions, the one preceding, the other following, proceeded up the river; the "Teazer" following with the boats of the "Penelope" similarly arranged, and accompanied by Mr. Beecroft's iron-boat "Victoria," fitted for rockets. The enemy immediately opened fire of great guns and musketry, the whole line of embankment being filled with men, the muzzles of the muskets only being visible. This fire was returned from great guns only, and with very beautiful precision, yet with very little effect, for the shot did not do much injury to the green wood of the stockade, and the guns themselves, from being retired, could not be seen. At 7:20 A.M. the "Bloodhound" and her division of boats had passed the north-west point, and in trying to get round the north point, grounded in eight feet. The black pilot, John Johns, did his work well and steadily, and is not to blame; the channel had filled up since he was last here—Mr. Beecroft and his interpreter, Richards, assisting. We had carried three fathoms all the way up. On sounding it was found impossible to get further. Anchors were therefore laid out to heave off. During this time a very deliberate and beautiful fire was kept up from the 18-pounder of the "Bloodhound," directed by Mr. Barry the gunner, and from the 12-pounder howitzer, by Lieutenant McArthur, R.M.A., with shrapnell and other shells, by which means the great guns abreast were silenced; but nothing could silence the perpetual showers of musketry, the greater part of which fell short, but every now and then one or two would fall on board; and men were hit slightly—very few indeed escaped a slight touch.

7. The "Teazer" had grounded shortly after weighing, and I did not observe her to be aground before we had advanced too far to anchor for mutual support, as had been agreed upon. I have therefore the honour to forward to you Captain Lyster's report of the proceedings of the divi-

sion under his command, during the remainder of the 26th and morning of the 27th. The operations of the division under my immediate direction continued occasionally to throw shot and shell, as any movement was observed on shore, and to check the operations of the enemy, who had nearly succeeded in bringing an invisible gun to bear, the shot at each discharge coming nearer and nearer.

At 10 A.M. I dispatched Lieutenant Thomas Saumarez in command of the gun-boats of Her Majesty's steamer "Sampson," viz., 1st and 2nd life-boats and pinnace, round the north-east point, to ascertain the strength and position of the guns on that side of the island. A fire from four guns strongly stockaded was immediately opened; this fire was returned from the life-boats and pinnace by the 24 and 12-pounder howitzers with such good effect as to have upset and turned out of its carriage one of these guns. The object being attained of ascertaining the position of the guns on the north-east side of the island, I recalled the boats, as it became requisite to reserve the ammunition and shells for the grand assault, when the other division under Captain Lyster should have joined. The fire from gingals, petrels, and muskets, continuing from the ditch and embankment abreast; and observing the enemy busy in trying to bring other guns into position, I, at 2.30 P.M., dispatched Lieutenant T. Saumarez, with the boats of the "Sampson," accompanied by Lieutenant E. McArthur, R.M.A., in command of the Royal Marine Artillery, to attempt a landing and spike these small guns. They did all that men could do, but it was found impossible to make their way through the showers of musketry opened against them; and Lieutenant Saumarez, therefore, very properly relinquished the attempt, and returned with ten men severely wounded, Mr. Richards mortally, and himself hit in three places. I must here bring to your notice the gallant conduct of Mr. William J. Stivey, carpenter of Her Majesty's steamer "Sampson," who, neck deep in water, axe in hand, was hewing away at the stakes to make a passage for the boats to land; he is one of those men always where he is wanted. The remainder of the day was passed in firing shot and shell as circumstances required, so as to prevent guns being moved against us; the nearest shots passing about ten yards astern.

At daylight on the 27th I had the satisfaction of seeing the "Teazer" afloat; and at 7.20, that she had entered the right channel and was coming towards us. I immediately ordered that a deliberate flanking fire should be opened on the west part of the enemy's defences from the "Bloodhound" and gun-boats; and sent a boat, under Mr. Bullen, my clerk, to point out to Captain Lyster, the position for the "Teazer" to anchor. 8.10, "Teazer" anchored, and I went on board to see Captain Lyster. Ordered the rocket-boats to take up a position to the northward of the "Bloodhound," which was quickly done, and Lieutenant Marshall threw some rockets with beautiful effect, setting fire to several houses, and particularly that of the Prime Minister, Tappa; this produced a spontaneous cheer through the little squadron for the rocket-boat. The rocket-boat shifted her position a-head of the "Teazer," and a general but deliberate fire was opened from the whole force. At 10.45, Lieutenant Marshall threw a rocket, which struck the battery below Tappa's house; and simultaneously, a shot from the "Teazer" capsized the gun. An awful explosion ensued, and from this moment the fate of our foes was decided: it became evident they must submit; house after house caught fire, and the town was shortly in a general blaze. At 10.30, Commander Coote joined, with the boats of the "Volcano;" and at 1.45, P.M., Commander Gardner, with the boats of the "Waterwitch." At 2.45, I dispatched the gun-boats of the squadron, under Commander Coote, accompanied by the rocket-boat, round the north point, to salute Kosoko's house; but directed that they should only fire a few rounds, being unwilling further to destroy the town; the ultimate fate being positive, should resistance continue. I therefore recalled the boats; sent a summons to Kosoko, by a chief of the Island of Echalli, and determined to wait until Monday morning at 7.

Sunday, 28th. This, on our part, was a day of rest, in preparation for the final assault of the 29th, should Kosoko reject the proffered terms,

as in Paper No. 4. I felt a reluctance to destroy the detached part of the town still standing, as it would be required for the new-comers. I felt it as a national question, that we should duly observe the Sabbath.

9. During the whole of this day, canoes from the north-east of Lagos were observed crossing to the Island of Echalli, loaded with furniture and household goods; but I conceived that it was no part of the grand object with which England sent her forces here, to care whether a bed and table, and private property of any kind, were on one side of the river or the other; that might safely be left to the choice of individuals fleeing from a city in flames. I therefore allowed this to go on without molestation, though a jolly-boat might have stopped it. It was also desirable to show that we did not come for pillage, but that our sole object was to stop Slave Trade. At 3.45 p.m., it was ascertained that Kosoko and his followers had abandoned the island. I therefore sent my aide-de-camp, Mr. Bullen, with the interpreter, Richards, to the chiefs of the auxiliary forces, desiring them to close with the canoes, and escort the rightful King, Akitoye, to his house, and instal him in office, preferring that they who had joined him in adversity should have the honour of being his body-guard. None of the British forces landed, except a small party with Commander Coote, to spike guns. In the evening I landed with Captain Lyster and Mr. Beecroft, when a scene of the most perfect desolation presented itself.

10. The lines of defence are the most cunningly devised scheme for entrapping assailants into ambush that can be conceived. I have desired Lieutenant Mc Arthur to make sketches, which shall be forwarded to you when ready.

11. A creek and swamp, running about 200 yards inland, had checked the flames, and saved the eastern division of the town.

29th. At daylight, I ordered Commander Coote, with his own boats and those of the "Sampson," and Commander Gardner, with his boat and those of the "Penelope," the one on the north-east, the other on the north-west point, to embark or destroy the whole of the guns. They returned at noon, having, by extraordinary exertion, embarked and destroyed fifty-two pieces of ordnance, as stated in their several reports sent herewith, Nos. 5 and 6.

12. Thus, Sir, the Island of Lagos and its dependencies are prostrate before us, ours by the right of conquest, to deal with as might be most expedient. Everyone had fled.

13. It appears Kosoko, with about 2000 followers, had absconded in fifty or sixty canoes. The women and children had been sent away several days before. Akitoye and his followers are in full possession.

14. I have thus, Sir, arrived at the point when the full and complete accomplishment of your instructions was fulfilled; the climax of your expectations, as conveyed in your first order, placing the gallant and devoted officers and men composing the expeditionary forces under my command, realized.

15. And I cannot, in terms of adequate import, convey to you how fully I appreciate the cheerful endurance of intense heat, the perpetual rattling of shot from an invisible foe, and the labour of getting the vessels afloat after grounding.

16. In these duties each and all in their several departments exerted their best; but the toil and anxieties of floating the vessels principally devolved on Lieutenant Russell Patey, of the "Bloodhound," and Lieutenant Leckie, of the "Teazer." Each and all have done their duty with a cheerfulness and good-will worthy of the righteous cause upon which we have been engaged, and to all my best thanks are due.

17. I have, in the course of this despatch, mentioned the names of officers who have stood forth as leaders, and of those in command of boats, and I fully adopt the report of Captain Lyster, to bear testimony of the ardent zeal of Commander Hillyar, and Lieutenants Marshall and Rich. My gallant friend, Captain Lyster, and Commander Hillyar, were each severely wounded in the assault to spike the guns on the 26th, bearing on the "Teazer;" but nothing could induce these officers to return to their ship, though suffering severely, until they had seen the final

triumph of their exertions. The gallantry and devotion of Lieutenant Corbett is fully set forth in the letter of Captain Lyster; and I trust "I have done it" will not be forgotten as an example of what a man may do by courage and perseverance.

18. Lieutenant Thomas Saumarez, who was in command of the boats of the "Sampson," is a most energetic and promising young officer; he has for some time been doing duty as First Lieutenant of this ship.

19. Mr. James Cooke, the gunner, has been the conveyer of all my notes to you, and keeping up the supply of ammunition.

20. Charles Blofield, boatswain's mate, has had charge of the pinnace mounting a 12-pounder howitzer, for the last two days, having no officer left to put in her. He conducted his charge to my entire satisfaction, and is a deserving, promising young man, and will, with a little more experience, make a good boatswain.

21. The 24-pounder howitzer in the first life-boat was served by George Yule, gunner, Royal Marine Artillery, with admirable precision.

22. Before concluding, I must, as senior officer of the Bights Division, express to you how deeply I feel indebted to Commander Wilmot, of the "Harlequin," for the manner in which he has executed my orders to make himself acquainted with the passage of the Lagos Bar. He first ferretted his way in his gig, and then step by step, day by day, when the surf would permit, till he discovered a passage of ten feet, which enabled the steam-vessels to pass the Bar. I much regret that he should not have been present to witness the final triumph of which he was the pioneer.

23. I forward to you two notes received from Mr. Olive, master, who was left in command of the "Sampson," showing that those who were left on board were not idle, and that the anxiety of Mr. Donnelly, the surgeon, to come to the assistance of the wounded, nearly cost him his own life; he succeeded, however, in joining us the following day.

24. Mr. Thomas Hocking, the purser, stationed himself in the main-top, to report the effect of shells and progress of the forces inside.

25. I herewith send lists of the killed and wounded, amounting to killed, 15; wounded, 75.

26. I have yet another paragraph to add to this lengthened despatch, which I cannot without extreme injustice omit, and that is, to express how deeply I feel indebted to Mr. Rupert H. Bullen, clerk of the "Sampson," who has combined the duties of secretary and aide-de-camp; and when I say that no Lieutenant would have done better, I hope I shall convey to you how fully I appreciate his services.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LEWIS T. JONES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 70.

Captain Lyster to Captain Jones.

Sir,

"Teazer," off Lagos, December 29, 1851.

1. I HAVE the honour to report my proceedings from the time of entering the River Lagos until I anchored in company with the "Blood-hound" on the morning of the 27th instant.

2. On the morning of the 26th, while following you up the river, the "Teazer" grounded under the enemy's guns on the left bank. I ran anchors out immediately, and kept up a steady fire from the ship and boats. At half-past 8 the water ceased to rise, and all our exertions to get off failed. Up to this time "Teazer's" 32-pounder bore on the enemy's battery, and kept it in check; but it was not long before two guns were brought to a stockade about a point on our quarter in an unassailable position from us; these guns were admirably served; and I felt satisfied they would destroy the vessel before the tide rose again. Under these circumstances two courses were open to me: namely, to set fire to and

abandon Her Majesty's ship, or to land and carry the guns. There could be no hesitation on these points, I knew the sacrifice of life would in all probability be great, but I determined to adopt the alternative; and the cheerful and ready acquiescence which Commander Hillyar, and the rest of the officers with me, gave to my determination left no doubt of its successful issue.

The boats as noted in the margin* were formed in line abreast; we pulled in (keeping up a continued fire of spherical, grape, and cannister shot) directly for the stockade where the best landing-place appeared to be. As the boats touched the shore, we received a discharge of at least 1500 muskets; notwithstanding, we landed, formed on the beach, and entered the stockade, from which the enemy retreated into the bush close to the rear. Lieutenant Corbett rushed a-head and spiked the guns. Of this officer I shall have to speak again presently.

Having thus accomplished our object, I ordered the party to re-embark, and had scarcely done so, when Commander Hillyar informed me that No. 1 life-boat was taken, and that the enemy were tracking her along the beach towards the guns that first opened on the "Teazer;" it was necessary to retake her, and we hurried down accordingly. As the crew of the captured boat, consisting of upwards of sixty men, had now to get into other boats, we became crowded, and some little delay occurred in consequence; all this time the enemy were coming from the bush in swarms, and poured a crushing destructive fire on us at pistol-range. When we had shoved off, and while Commander Hillyar was arranging the boats, I observed something wrong with the "Victoria," which was nearer to the shore; on pulling back to her I could only see Mr. Blight, boatswain, who said that the krooman had let go the anchor without orders. I desired him to slip the cable; he replied, "it is a chain-cable clinched to the bottom, and we can't unshackle it." As I jumped on board to look, Lieutenant Corbett staggered up from the stern, saying, "I have done it, and am alive." Yes, he had cut the chain-cable with a cold chisel, and in doing so received five different wounds, which with a severe wound received on shore rendered him almost helpless, his right arm was hanging by his side, but with the left he assisted in getting the "Victoria" off to the "Teazer." I have entered into particulars here, because I feel that such heroic devotion deserves to be recorded.

On leaving the "Victoria," I was shot in the back with a musket-ball, and I found that I had too many of my force wounded to justify an attempt to recover the life-boat on this occasion, and most reluctantly left her on the beach, and returned to the "Teazer." Some forty or fifty of the enemy had the audacity to go on board the life-boat, seeing which, Mr. Balfour, Acting Mate, assisted by Mr. Dewar, gunner, threw a rocket into her magazine and blew it up.

On reaching the "Teazer," I ordered all the provisions to be taken out of her, the coals, with the exception of ten tons, to be thrown overboard, and shored her up. We were not much annoyed by the enemy on this occasion. At sunset we succeeded in heaving her off, and anchored out of gun-shot for the night.

I had decided not to go up to you if I found the "Bloodhound" afloat at daylight, until I could communicate by signal the number of wounded men there were on board this small vessel, but as you were aground I felt it to be my duty to join, which I did at 9 o'clock A. M. on the 27th, and took up a position opposite the town batteries. Our proceedings then came under your own observation, and therefore need no comment from me.

Where each officer and man vied with the other in performing daring

- * 1. Gig.—Captain Lyster; Mr. Wroughton, midshipman.
- 2. Whale-boat —Commander Hillyar; Mr. Pack, midshipman.
- 3. 1st Life-boat.—Lieutenant E. Marshall; Mr. Puddicombe, midshipman.
- 4. 2nd Life-boat.—Lieutenant F. D. Rich; Mr. R. Brown, naval cadet; Mr. Wilcox, carpenter.
- 5. Victoria rocket-boat.—Lieutenant S. Corbett, Mr. Gillham, master's assistant; Mr. B. F. Clark, master's assistant; Mr. S. Blight, boatswain.
- 6. Pinnace.—Mr. H. Hathorn, mate.
- 7. 1st Cutter.—Mr. J. B. Balfour, acting mate; Mr. H. A. Dewar, gunner.
- 8. 2nd Cutter.—Mr. F. R. Fletcher, midshipman.

exploits of valour, I naturally feel a difficulty in naming particular individuals, but the prominent position of those who were in command, on whose coolness and courage the safety of the persons subordinate to them depended, compels me in justice to bring to your notice Commander Hillyar, Lieutenants Marshall, Rich, and Corbett, and Lieutenant Williams of the Royal Marine Artillery, who, although severely wounded in three places, remained at the head of his men until the last, also Lieutenant Leckie, commanding the "Teazer," and Mr. W. R. Bent, senior mate.

Mr. John Brown, master of the "Penelope," was of great assistance in piloting the "Teazer."

Mr. F. R. Fletcher, midshipman in charge of the second cutter, who had the care of the boats while on shore, received a mortal wound, and died in the execution of his duty.

James Webb, gunner's mate, in attempting to spike the gun of the first life-boat, was cut down and mortally wounded.

The warrant officers, Mr. Dewar, gunner, Mr. Blight, boatswain, and Mr. Wilcox, carpenter, distinguished themselves.

The medical officers, Mr. R. Carpenter, senior surgeon in the expedition, Mr. Walling, assistant surgeon of the "Penelope," Dr. Barclay acting surgeon, and Dr. Sproule, assistant surgeon, never flinched from their duty; in the midst of the fire they stepped from boat to boat and alleviated the sufferings of the wounded and the dying.

To each of the above mentioned, and other officers engaged with me, and to the seamen and marines, collectively and individually, my warmest thanks are due; under the most trying circumstances their ardour was never checked, their spirit was never daunted.

I inclose a list of the killed and wounded. I deeply regret the loss which has been sustained, but even if it had been greater, I should feel that I had done my duty in preventing one of Her Majesty's ships from falling into the hands of the enemy.

I am happy to report that the first life-boat has been recovered.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY LYSTER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 70.

LIST of Officers, Seamen, Marines, and Kroomen, belonging to H.M.S. "Penelope," killed and wounded at Lagos, on December 26, 1851, in spiking the guns to protect "Teazer," then aground.

KILLED.

Names.		Rank.	Remarks.
Mr. F. R. Fletcher	..	Midshipman ..	Shot through the head
John McDonald	..	A.B. ..	Ditto
William Laws	..	Captain foretop ..	Shot through the orbit
Frederick Hunn	..	Armourer ..	Shot through the brain
Thomas Sutton	..	Captain forecastle ..	Ditto
James Webb	..	Gunner's mate ..	Shot through the abdomen
Thomas Davis	..	A.B. ..	Ditto
Samuel Pitt	..	Stoker ..	Shot through the head
Benjamin Tracey	..	Ditto ..	Killed on shore
Rd. Peacock	..	Ditto ..	Ditto
Francis Bone	..	Marine ..	Shot through the brain
Thomas Nonely	..	Ditto ..	Ditto
William Wilson	..	Supernumerary marine ..	Ditto
King George	..	Krooman ..	Shot through the heart

WOUNDED.

Names.	Rank.	Remarks.
Henry Lyster	Captain	Severely
C. F. Hillyar	Commander	Ditto
John Corbett	Lieutenant	Very severely
J. W. C. Williams	First Lieutenant Marines	Severely
H. M. Gillham	Master's assistant	Dangerously—since dead
H. A. Dewar	Gunner	Slightly
James Blight	Boatswain	Ditto
Henry Huggins	Ordinary	Severely
V. Walters	Captain forecandle	Dangerously
George Strong	Boatswain's mate	Slightly
Henry Keemer	A.B.	Severely
Peter Coleman	Captain foretop	Ditto
James Markham	Ordinary	Ditto
George Day	Captain's coxswain	Ditto
William Voler	Boatswain's mate	Ditto
Thos. Stephenson	2nd Ordinary	Ditto
H. M. Davis	A.B.	Ditto
Henry Laws	A.B.	Ditto
Joseph Brunkir	Ordinary	Ditto
George Cox	2nd class Ordinary	Ditto
William Walter	A.B.	Ditto
Richard Wisdom	A.B.	Ditto
George Bulley	A.B.	Slightly
William Rice	Ordinary	Ditto
William Hender	Captain maintop	Ditto
Henry Harrison	Sailmakers' crew	Ditto
Alexr. Rutter	Coxswain launch	Severely
John Murphy	A.B.	Ditto
William Smith	Captain maintop	Ditto
William Hayes	Ordinary	Ditto
William Aldred	Quartermaster	Slightly
William Windsor	Gunner's mate	Ditto
Charles Whitcomb	Stoker	Severely
Robert William	Ditto	Slightly
James Fullerton	Leading stoker	Dangerously
William Marshall	Stoker	Severely
John Oakley	Boy, 1st class	Dangerously
Thomas Saunders	Supernumerary ditto	Severely
Thomas Rose	Boy, 1st class	Slightly
Theophilus Cock	Ditto	Severely
Richard Cocks	Ditto	Slightly
G. Ben. Inprel	Ditto, supernumerary	Ditto
David Berry	Boy, 2nd class	Ditto
George Peters	Gunner, R.M.A.	Ditto
George Glen	Fifer	Severely
W. Wainford	Gunner, R.M.A.	Ditto
W. Bovingdon	Ditto	Dangerously
Wm. Botters	Ditto	Severely
William Chaffe	Ditto	Ditto
Edward Cassidy	Ditto	Ditto
George Lacey	Ditto	Ditto
John Brown	Bombardier	Ditto
Robert Wood	Gunner, R.M.A.	Ditto
David Harlick	Ditto	Ditto
George Maggs	Serjeant	Slightly
Ben Liverpool	Krooman	Dangerously
Tom Toby	Ditto	Severely
Tom Peter	Ditto	Slightly
Tom Bestman	Ditto	Ditto
Tom George	Ditto	Ditto
Abm. Dennis	Ditto	Severely
Tom Barber	Ditto	Slightly

Total killed 14
Total wounded 62
Total wounded in "Teaser" .. 2

78

(Signed) RICHARD CARPENTER, *Surgeon.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 70.

LIST of Officers, Seamen, Marines and Kroomen, belonging to H.M.S. "Sampson," killed and wounded at Lagos, on December 26, 1851.

Names.	Rank or Rating.	Remarks.
Thos. Saumarez	Lieutenant, R.N. ..	Shot through right thigh
Thos. Richards	Midshipman	Shot through the brain—since dead
Ben. Harding	Corporal Marine Artillery	Shot through left temple
Geo. Yule	Marine Artillery ..	Shot through left thigh
James Wade	Ditto	Shot through left wrist
Thomas Kirkpatrick ..	Ditto	Shot through right hand
Joseph Martin	Ditto	Shot through right thigh
S. Dobell	Ordinary	Wound of ring finger of left hand
P. Rowe	Captain maintop ..	Wound of left wrist
P. Foot	A.B.	Wound of left hip
Joseph Williams	Captain foretop ..	Wound of forehead
Jno. Jumbo	Krooman	Wound of right shoulder

Total killed 1
Total wounded 11
12

(Signed) SAMUEL DONNELLY, *Surgeon.*

Inclosure 6 in No. 70.

LIST of Officers and Men wounded, belonging to H.M.S. "Teazer" (tender to "Penelope"), at Lagos, December 27, 1851.

Names.	Rank or Rating.	Remarks.
Mr. Geo. E. Howell	Gunner 3rd class ..	Very dangerously
John Yates	A.B.	Slightly

(Signed) RICHARD CARPENTER, *Surgeon.*

Inclosure 7 in No. 70.

(No. 2.)—List of Officers and Men sent from "Sampson," December 23, 1851.

1st Gig.	Pinnace. 12-pounder howitzer.
Captain Jones.	Mr. Ward, second master.
Mr. Bullen, clerk.	Mr. Kelly, master's assistant.
Coxswain and 4 seamen.	14 Seamen.
	3 Marines.
	2 Kroomen.
1st Life-boat. 24-pounder howitzer.	1st Cutter.
Lieutenant Saumarez.	Mr. Richards, midshipman.
Lieutenant McArthur, R.M.A.	Mr. Stivey, carpenter.
17 Seamen.	12 Seamen.
13 Marine Artillery.	2 Kroomen.
4 Kroomen.	
2nd Life-boat. 24-pounder howitzer.	2nd Cutter.
Mr. Bayley, mate.	Mr. Henderson, midshipman.
Mr. Pendrith, assistant surgeon.	11 Seamen.
15 Seamen.	2 Kroomen.
14 Marine Artillery.	
4 Kroomen.	2nd Gig.
	Mr. Cook, gunner.
	4 Seamen.
Total, 12 officers and 12 men.	

List of Officers and Men sent from the "Penelope."

1st Gig.	2nd Life-boat. 24-pounder howitzer.
Captain Lyster.	Lieutenant Rich.
Mr. Wroughton, midshipman.	Mr. Brown, naval cadet.
6 Seamen.	Mr. Wilcox, carpenter.
1 Marine.	19 Seamen.
Whaler.	6 Marines.
Commander Hillyar.	7 Kroomen.
Mr. Parke, midshipman.	Pinnace. 12-pounder howitzer.
5 Seamen.	Mr. Hawthorn, mate.
1 Marine.	17 Seamen.
Mr. Carpenter, surgeon.	6 Marines.
Rocket-boat (iron). 24-pounder and 12-pounder rockets.	4 Kroomen.
Lieutenant Corbett.	1st Cutter. 6-pounder rocket.
Lieutenant Williams, R.M.A.	Mr. Balfour, mate.
Mr. Clarke, master's assistant.	Mr. Dewar, gunner.
Mr. Blight, boatswain.	12 Seamen.
Mr. , assistant surgeon.	4 Marines.
28 Seamen.	2 Kroomen.
16 Marines.	2nd Cutter.
19 Kroomen.	Mr. Fletcher, midshipman.
1st Life-boat. 24-pounder howitzer.	Mr. Gillham, master's assistant.
Lieutenant Marshall.	12 Seamen.
Mr. Puddicombe, midshipman.	4 Marines.
19 Seamen.	2 Kroomen.
6 Marines.	
7 Kroomen.	

	Total.	
Officers ..	..	20
Seamen ..	..	118
Marines ..	..	44
Kroomen ..	..	41
		223
	Sampson's Total.	
Officers ..	..	12
Men ..	..	122
		134
	Grand Total	357

Inclosure 8 in No. 70.

(No. 3.)—*Regulations for the attack on Lagos, Friday, December 26, 1851.*

High-water full and change at 6 ; rise 4 feet. New moon, Monday, 22nd, 3:34 P.M.

DRESS.

Seamen	{	Blue frocks.
	{	White trousers.
	{	Straw hats.
Marines	{	White frocks.
	{	White trousers.
	{	White caps.

Akitoye's men to wear a white band round the neck.

150 of Akitoye's men to be embarked in the seven captured canoes, and follow steamers, the rest to remain in encampment until sent for.

Town to be shelled from the gun-boats in two divisions at a range of 1000 yards, then to advance under a deliberate fire of round-shot. Shrapnel and case to be reserved for special service.

Officer in charge of explosion powder.—Lt. McArthur, R.M.A.

Officer to spike guns.—Commander Hillyar.

"Bloodhound" to lead, preceded by port-division of boats, and followed by starboard-division. "Teazer" to follow, with similar arrangements of

boats. The gun-boats to keep up a fire with round-shot, and if near enough, with cannister, but not to use shell without special orders. Should either of the steamers ground, the boats will take up positions for mutual support, but if nothing occurs to prevent it, it is designed to pass direct to the north part of the island.

General signals to be used to "Teazer."

Wilmot's signals to be used to boats.

White ensign at the fore,—signal for Akitoye's canoes to close round "Bloodhound."

(Signed)

LEWIS T. JONES, *Captain*
H.M.S. "Sampson."

Inclosure 9 in No. 70.

Captain Jones to the Chief Kosoko.

Lagos River, December 28, 1851.

KOSOKO is invited to come on board Her Majesty's ship "Bloodhound," to meet the rightful King, Akitoye. Kosoko's life will be safe; he shall be provided for at Fernando Po. Kosoko must resign to the rightful King, Akitoye.

The answer must be received by 7 o'clock to-morrow morning, by which many lives and much property may still be spared.

Inclosure 10 in No. 70.

Commander Gardner to Captain Jones.

Sir,

"Bloodhound," December 29, 1851.

IN compliance with your order I have taken, sunk, or destroyed guns from the N.W. point of Lagos, as follows:

Guns taken.

Gun, brass 1, length 10 ft. 4 in., calibre 4·2 in.
Gun, iron 1, length 5 ft. 5 in., calibre 3·5 in.
" 1, length 5 ft., calibre 4 in.
" 1, length 6 ft. 7 in., calibre 4½ in.
" 1, length 8 ft. 2 in., calibre 4½ in.
" 1, length 6 ft. 7 in., calibre 4½ in.
Carronade, iron, length 4 ft., calibre 5 in.
Gun, iron 1, length 8 ft., calibre 4·5 in.
" 1, length 4 ft. 10 in., calibre 3·5 in.
" 1, length 8 ft., calibre 4·5 in.
" 1, length 4 ft. 10 in., calibre 3·5 in.
" 1, length 8 ft. 7 in., calibre 5 in.
" 1, length 4 ft. 10½ in., calibre 3·5 in.
" 1, length 4 ft. 5 in., calibre 3½ in.
" 1, length 3 ft. 6 in., calibre 2·5 in.
" 1, length 4 ft., calibre 3½ in.
" 1, length 5 ft., calibre 3½ in.
" 1, length 4 ft. 10 in., calibre 3 in.
" 1, length 2 ft. 6 in., calibre 3 in.
Carronade 1, length 3 ft. 8 in., calibre 5 in.
" 1, length 3 ft. 6 in., calibre 3·5 in.

Guns sunk.

Gun 1, length about 8 ft.
" 1, length 5 ft. 3 in.
" 1, length 4 ft.
" 1, length 8 ft.
Carronade 1, length 4 ft.

One heavy gun remaining to be destroyed.

Total guns brought ..	21
Total guns sunk ..	5
To be destroyed ..	1

(Signed)

A. GARDNER, *Commander*
H.M.S. "Waterwitch."

Inclosure 11 in No. 70.

(No. 6.)—*Commander Coote to Captain Jones.*

*"Bloodhound," off the town of Lagos,
December 29, 1851.*

Sir,

IN obedience to your instructions of the 28th instant, I beg to acquaint you that the following guns have been brought from the shore by the division of boats under my orders :

One 18-pounder, mounted on a well-executed revolving carriage, near the King's house.	} All iron.
One 18-pounder carronade	
One 12-pounder gun	
One 12-pounder carronade	
One 6-pounder gun	
One 6-pounder carronade	
One 4-pounder gun, travelling-carriage	
Also five small iron guns, and eight small brass guns.	

The following guns have been spiked and rendered useless ; when possible they have been sunk in deep water.

One long 32-pounder.
One long 24-pounder carronade,
One long 32-pounder carronade.
One long 18-pounder gun.
One long 12-pounder carronade.
One long 9-pounder carronade.
Two long 6-pounder guns.
Two small guns.

In all 25 guns, in various positions, between the north point of the island and the King's house.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. COOTE, *Commander, H.M.S. "Volcano."*

Inclosure 12 in No. 70.

Mr. Olive to Captain Jones.

Sir,

"Sampson," off Lagos, December 26, 1851.

I REGRET to inform you the second gig was capsized on the Bar yesterday, with the doctor and gunner in her ; but both, I am happy to say, are saved and doing well. The Commodore has ordered the boat to go on board with powder and shot for shore party without an officer, which I have done. I fear the shells from the 68-pounder may strike the boat, so I have ceased firing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. OLIVE.

Inclosure 13 in No. 70.

Mr. Olive to Captain Jones.

Sir,

"Sampson," off Lagos, December 28, 1851.

I SENT all the charges for boat's guns in the paddle-box boat, as well the musket-ball cartridge, and also all the boat-shot that I can find in the ship. I shall go on filling musket-ball cartridge to-day.

I have fired several shells to the right of the town, but they fell short, and I have therefore desisted, though I am keeping a good look out for any party of the enemy that may come within range.

Wishing you success, I am, &c.

(Signed) W. OLIVE.

No. 71.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 16, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, a copy of a letter dated the 3rd January, from Commodore Bruce, and of its inclosure from Captain Jones, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Sampson," reporting the successful termination of the service in the River Lagos.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 71.

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

(No. 12.)

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, January 3, 1852.

I TRANSMIT herewith, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a letter from Captain Lewis T. Jones, reporting the successful and final termination of the service in the River Lagos, which forms the subject of my despatch to you dated the 2nd instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 71.

Captain Jones to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

"Sampson," off Lagos, January 1, 1852.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to you the termination of the proceedings of the expeditionary forces under my command, having at 2 p.m. to-day recrossed the Bar with the "Bloodhound" and "Teazer," and boats of the "Sampson."

The 30th and 31st December were occupied by Mr. Beecroft and myself in visiting the adjacent Island of Echalli, and explaining to the natives the object of the English coming up the river.

That it was solely to "prevent the exportation of slaves." That "the suppression of this abominable Traffic would lead to lawful and free trade." That "England would take all the oil they could make."

They were also told, and told to spread it far and wide, "never to fear an attack from the English, but always come forward and meet them as friends; that we never fired first, but that if people assailed us, we 'hit hard.'"

Each of these announcements was received with great joy and clapping of hands; it seemed as if a new existence had opened on these fine-looking athletic men.

On the 31st Akitoye hoisted his flag: white with red cross diagonally.

Akitoye signed the provisional Slave Treaty at the King's house, in the presence of a large concourse of people, the Separate Articles being read aloud and translated by Richards the interpreter, the people approving as each Article was read, by clapping of hands and the peculiar snapping of thumbs.

It is, Sir, with considerable pleasure that I can report to you the perfect state of the health of the crew of the "Sampson," there is but one man in the list, exclusive of the wounded.

In conclusion, I trust and hope that my own heart, and the hearts of each and every one engaged in the late operations, is fully impressed with

the bountiful goodness of God in protecting them from sickness, in cheering them through most laborious duties, and enabling them to do their duty to their noble country with courage and fidelity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LEWIS T. JONES.

No. 72.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 16, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, a copy of a letter from Captain Jones, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Sampson," dated the 10th February, giving the latest intelligence of the state of affairs at Lagos.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure in No. 72.

Captain Jones to the Secretary of the Admiralty,

"Sampson," at Sea, Lat. 38° 56' N., Long. 11° 30' W.

February 10, 1852.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Lords of the Admiralty, that after Commodore Bruce left Lagos, I, with Mr. Consul Beecroft, paid King Akitoeye a visit on the 5th of January. He was perfectly delighted to see us, and we had the gratification of learning that upwards of 5000 of the inhabitants had returned to the town.

One of the principal chiefs, Ageeneah, had sent in a messenger to seek terms and forgiveness. He will be an important acquisition to Akitoeye. The same messenger stated that Kosoko was on an island in the Benin Creek, about seventeen miles distant; that his followers had dwindled down to about 200, with the chief Tappa at their head; but that they were determined men, and that Kosoko would attack Akitoeye so soon as the white man was gone.

In returning down the river at sunset, I had the satisfaction of meeting Commander Wilmot coming up. He will keep in constant communication with Akitoeye, and afford him the valuable assistance of his counsel and advice in reforming the Government. He could not be in better hands.

The "Harlequin" had had an exceedingly long passage to Prince's, which was owing to very light winds.

I left Lagos on the morning of the 6th January, and on the 7th I communicated with the "Philomel" at Whydah.

Commander T. G. Forbes was still at Abomey with Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser, and it appeared very uncertain how long the palaver might last.

As Commodore Bruce was anxious for me to save the homeward-bound mail, I did not think it expedient to remain.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LEWIS JONES.

No. 73.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Addington.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 17, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a letter from Commodore Bruce, dated the 2nd of January last, and its inclosures, stating that Commander T. G. Forbes, of "Philomel," will proceed to Abomey.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. PARKER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 73.*Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.*

(No. 7.)

Sir,

"Penelope," off Lagos, January 2, 1852.

BY the accompanying correspondence, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty will observe that there is a probability of our obtaining concessions from the King of Dahomey. I have acquainted Commander T. G. Forbes, of the "Philomel," that as soon as His Majesty signs a treaty similar to that which we have with Lagos, stipulating, in addition, that there shall be perpetual peace between Dahomey and Abbeokuta, the blockade of Whydah will be withdrawn, but not before. I am glad to find that the King of Dahomey has so promptly noticed my despatch to him, and I hope, in a very short time to bring all the chiefs between Cape St. Paul and the Benin (a line of coast notorious as containing the most extensive slaving establishments in Africa), to agree to the terms which I am directed by Her Majesty's Government to propose to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

P.S.—I highly approve of the promptitude and energy shown by Commander T. G. Forbes in proceeding to Abomey at once.

H. W. B.

Inclosure 2 in No. 73.*Commander T. G. Forbes to Commodore Bruce.*

Sir,

"Philomel," off Whydah, December 31, 1851.

IN a communication dated 26th December, from Vice-Consul L. Fraser, I was under the impression that he only wanted me or one of my officers to go to Abomey, more as a companion than a matter of duty; and as your instructions to me express that on no consideration did you think it advisable for me to land or allow any person under my orders, I therefore declined, particularly as I did not like leaving the brig in charge of Lieutenant Morrell, my Senior Lieutenant being absent at the time.

I have this day received the inclosed letter, dated 30th December, from Thomas Hutton, Esq., which makes it appear to me that I should at once accede to the King of Dahomey's wishes, of being present on this important occasion, and therefore shall proceed early to-morrow with the King's express messengers for Abomey.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. G. FORBES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 73.

Vice-Consul Fraser to Commander T. G. Forbes.

Sir,

Whydah, December 26, 1851.

I HAVE just received the King of Dahomey's stick and message, calling me to Abomey. I should like yourself or one of your Lieutenants to accompany me, more particularly as it would be in accordance with the King's wishes.

Things seems to be going on favourably, but I fear the sacrifices will be the great obstacle.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. FRASER,
H. B. M.'s Vice-Consul in Dahomey.

Inclosure 4 in No. 73.

Mr. Hutton to Commander T. G. Forbes.

Sir,

Whydah, December 30, 1851.

THE Yavogau and chiefs of this town, with express messengers from the King of Dahomey, have called upon me to request that I shall endeavour to prevail upon you to favour the King with an interview at Dahomey.

Mr. Vice-Consul Fraser, who left for Dahomey last evening, informed me that in accordance with your instructions, it was not conceived advisable that yourself should visit the shore; and such intimation I am led to infer has been made known to the King, who appears most anxious that yourself, being Her Majesty's Senior Officer on this station, should be present on this important occasion, the effecting a treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Yavogau and chiefs, the Da Souzas and the principal residents here, with Senhor Domingo Martinez of Porto Novo, and also myself, are invited to be present.

I am assured the King will feel much aggrieved if disappointed in the favour of your presence; permit me to hope that you will gratify him, as your presence will certainly tend to lessen difficulties, and dispose him to bring this long-desired treaty to a successful conclusion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. HUTTON.

No. 74.

Mr. Layard to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 23, 1852.

I HAVE laid before Earl Granville your letter of the 16th instant, inclosing copies of despatches from Commodore Bruce, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the west coast of Africa, and from Captains Jones and Lyster, reporting their proceedings in the attack which was made upon the Island and Town of Lagos on the 26th and 27th of December last, and which compelled the usurper Kosoko to evacuate that town with his forces, and led to the restoration of Akitoye, the rightful Sovereign of Lagos.

The great numerical strength of the enemy, the entrenchments by which they had skilfully fortified the place and its approaches, and the natural difficulties attending the ascent of the river, rendered this expedition peculiarly arduous and formidable; and Lord Granville feels called upon to say, that it appears to him that the officers and men engaged in the reduction of Lagos have greatly distinguished themselves, and have

fully maintained the high and well-earned reputation of the British Navy for courage and gallantry; and if the Lords of the Admiralty should concur in this opinion, Lord Granville hopes that Commodore Bruce may receive from their Lordships a suitable acknowledgment of the distinguished services of the officers and men employed under his orders in this action.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 75.

Earl Granville to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 23, 1852.

IT was my duty to inform you by my despatch of the 24th ultimo, that Her Majesty's Government were of opinion that you were not justified in requiring Commander T. G. Forbes, of Her Majesty's steamer "Philomel," to direct against the town of Lagos the attack which was made by the boats of Her Majesty's squadron on the 25th of November last; and I have since learnt from the Admiralty, that the view which I took of these transactions on the receipt of your despatch of the 26th of November, has been fully borne out by the opinion thereupon which Commodore Bruce communicated to Commander Forbes on the 19th of December, after having investigated upon the spot all that occurred on that occasion.

I have now to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 3rd of January, reporting your proceedings on board Her Majesty's steamer "Bloodhound," between the 30th of November, 1851, and the 1st of January last; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with great satisfaction that the formidable resistance of the King and chiefs of Lagos has been completely subdued by the skill and intrepidity so eminently displayed by Her Majesty's Naval Forces under Captain Jones, in the attack upon that island and town, on the 26th and 27th of December.

I have no doubt that by your professional and local knowledge, and by your perseverance and activity, you have been enabled to render important services to Commodore Bruce, in preparing and carrying into execution his plans for the attack upon Lagos; and I hope that the restoration of the rightful chief, Akitoye, to his sovereignty, combined with the signature of the Treaty which he concluded with Commodore Bruce and you on the 1st of January, may lead to the complete extirpation of the Slave Trade from the stronghold which it has found for some years at Lagos.

I have the gratification of informing you that Her Majesty's Government have confirmed the Treaty of the 1st of January, and that they entirely approve the part taken by you in the proceedings of Her Majesty's squadron since the 30th of November last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 76.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Layard.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 25, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of a letter dated the 5th January, from Commander Wilmot, of Her Majesty's sloop "Harlequin," and of its inclosure, reporting the circumstances attending the destruction of a village and barracoons at the entrance of the River Lagos on the 30th November last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 76.

Commander Wilmot to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Harlequin," Lagos, January 5, 1852.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a letter forwarded to Commodore Bruce, Commander-in-chief of the African squadron, relative to the destruction of a village and barracoons, on the point at the entrance of the River of Lagos, on the night of the 30th November, 1851, by the boats of the "Harlequin" and "Volcano."

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. WILMOT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 76.

Commander Wilmot to Commodore Bruce.

Sir,

"Harlequin," off Lagos, December 1, 1851.

THE King of Lagos having commenced hostilities against Great Britain, by firing upon a flag of truce that accompanied Her Majesty's Consul up the river on the morning of the 25th November last, for the purpose of holding a palaver with His Majesty, I have considered it my duty ever since, as the commander of a British cruiser upon this coast, to annoy him by every means in my power.

Mr. Beecroft having intimated to me his desire to re-enter the river of Lagos with the "Bloodhound" and the armed boats of this vessel, "Volcano," and "Waterwitch," for the purpose of harassing the town and people, and preventing war-canoes from going up the Badagry Creek, I recalled the "Waterwitch" from Jaboo, still retaining the boats of the "Volcano" with Commander Coote on board the "Harlequin."

As I have always considered the destruction of the eastern point of land that commands the entrance of the river,—upon which are several large barracoons belonging to the Portuguese, capable of holding from 5000 to 6000 slaves, as well as a native village, in which and around which an armed force of some hundreds of men had taken up their position,—to be of much importance in our operations against Lagos, both as to the advantage to be gained by us in having our way clear from annoyance, as well as the moral effect it might have upon the King, I determined to attempt a night attack with the boats of this ship and those of the "Volcano" which remained with us.

Accordingly, upon the night of the 30th November, at 9-30 p.m., the moon shining brightly, with a moderate breeze of wind, I dispatched 97 men, including officers, seamen, and marines, from this ship and "Volcano," under the command of John M. Reeves, First Lieutenant of the "Volcano," accompanied by Lieutenants Charles P. Robinson, of the same vessel, and James D. Curtis, of the "Harlequin," to destroy the barracoons and village. A fire party, under Mr. John Walker, boatswain of this ship, with portfires, covered lanterns and candles, and flambeaux, made of pitch and turpentine, were attached to the force.

My object was to take the village by surprise, and accomplish its destruction without any sacrifice of human life.

I am most happy to inform you of the complete success of the expedition, without the slightest casualty of any kind. The whole of the barracoons and village were in flames in less than an hour, and the enemy must have been panic-struck, as no great resistance was offered, although musketry was opened when the party had effected their purpose. A quantity of powder exploded in the different houses, and in the barracoons belonging to the slave-dealers, several casks of palm-oil, aguardente, &c., were destroyed.

In reporting the successful accomplishment of this little expedition, important in its effects upon the minds and energies of all Lagos, had it

been followed next day by entering the river according to Mr. Beecroft original intention, I have to bring before your notice the steady, zealous, and gallant conduct of Lieutenant Reeve, who conducted his party with the greatest silence and good order, carrying out the instructions he received from me to my great satisfaction, although every moment anticipating an attack from the stockades and bushes, as we had seen between 200 and 300 men constantly in arms upon the point.

Lieutenant Reeve speaks most highly of every officer, seaman, and marine that landed, and gives a large portion of praise to Mr. Walker, boatswain of this ship (who had previously landed with me), and his fire party, for so effectually performing their share of the plan.

I trust, Sir, that this fire, which must have been seen at least forty miles around, will remind the King of Lagos, that though the greater portion of our force has left his shores for the present, it is still the intention of our Government to give him and all Africa such a proof of our power, that the coming year will dawn upon a brighter period than has hitherto been known here, and behold the complete abolition of the Slave Trade for ever.

It was my intention to have destroyed the canoes belonging to the Portuguese slave-dealers upon this point, amounting to twenty or thirty, but they have been withdrawn up the river, evidently anticipating the attack.

Mr. Beecroft having changed his mind with respect to re-entering the river left Lagos, this evening in the "Bloodhound," with Commander Coote and the "Volcano's" boats in tow, for Badagry, to rejoin their vessel; and I have sent the "Waterwitch" to Prince's, receiving from her all the water she could conveniently spare.

The barracoons belonged to Senhores Nobre, Lima, and Marcos, the three greatest slave-dealers in Lagos.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR P. EARDLEY WILMOT.

No. 77.

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Layard.

Sir,

Admiralty, February 24, 1852.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, a copy of a despatch from Commodore Bruce, dated the 17th January, containing intelligence respecting the state of affairs in the Bight of Benin, and recommending that certain Consular Agents should be appointed to places there.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure in No. 77.

(No. 23.)

Commodore Bruce to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Penelope," Ascension, January 17, 1852.

THE recent operations in the Bight of Benin which were undertaken in compliance with instructions from the Lords of the Admiralty, will, there is every reason to suppose, be the means of stopping the Slave Trade in that portion of Africa. The expulsion of the white slave-dealers from Lagos, the deposition of its barbarous Chief, Kosoko, and the establishment of a friendly and comparatively civilized ruler in his place, has opened out a field for legitimate commercial enterprise to an extent difficult to define.

Lagos, lately an excellent and well-built native town, situated near to the sea-coast on the bank of a river which is accessible to vessels drawing as much as ten or eleven feet, and having water-communication far into the interior, beyond Abbeokuta, and for hundreds of miles along the coast, appears to be the natural magazine for such of the produce of the surrounding country as is intended for exportation. The natives are a brave and intelligent race, and more desirous of partaking of the comforts and luxuries consequent on an intercourse with European traders, than most of the adjacent tribes. Their exports of palm-oil and ivory under the late Government were very considerable, and now, when they perceive that their favourite occupation of slave-dealing must from the strict blockade which is kept up by the British cruisers, be relinquished, and are made to understand that their topographical position enables them to become the carriers of merchandize to and from the inland nations, it may be supposed that they would, with a proper degree of management, turn their attention to lawful pursuits, and before long be the wealthiest and most considerable people in Western Africa.

But unfortunately, the Traffic in Slaves is of all descriptions of commerce, the one most congenial to the habits and disposition of the African: the marauding expeditions undertaken at certain seasons for the capture of slaves, establishes his character for enterprise and courage among his brethren; the boundless and cruel control he exercises over his captives in the barracoons is gratifying to his savage temper; and the readiness with which he finds purchasers for them satisfies his cupidity. Experience shows us that he will never voluntarily abandon this vile Traffic.

At this moment our negotiations with Dahomey are progressing to a favourable termination; the petty chiefs in the Bight of Benin will be governed by the result. Lagos, the greatest slave emporium, is in our power, and the people are ready to accede to any terms which we may propose to them; but the difficulty is in keeping them to their engagements. The Slave Trade requires no organized system for its support; it might cease for a century and be renewed in a week; remove the blockading squadron, and to-morrow, if the Spaniards or Brazilians were willing to buy slaves, the chiefs would be ready to sell them, notwithstanding their pledges to the contrary. Still there are, in my opinion, means, by the adoption of which, the squadron might, to effect all that is required of it on this point, be reduced to a number only sufficient to watch over the interests of legitimate traders, namely, by establishing Consuls and Agents at different places, whose duty it should be to ascertain whether or not the native chiefs to whom they are accredited, faithfully observe their engagements for the abolition of the Slave Trade. They should be instructed to foster legitimate commerce, to keep up a constant communication with the officers commanding Her Majesty's ships; to impart at once any intelligence they might obtain of a breach of treaty, and the offending chief should be summarily punished for the same by the stoppage of trade and the destruction of his coast town. It should be their duty to report to the Senior Naval Officer, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, once a-month at least, the state of affairs within the limits of their respective Consulates or Agencies; they should be strictly forbidden to interfere in the political concerns of the countries in which they are residing, and prohibited from entering into commercial speculations, either on their own account or on account of other parties. The persons best adapted for these situations would be intelligent and fairly educated Creoles of the West Indies, or natives of Sierra Leone, as they alone are capable of withstanding the effects of the climate. I would suggest that on the respective chiefs entering into anti-Slave Trade engagements, Consuls be appointed at Lagos and Whydah, and Agents at Elmina Chica, Fish Town, Ahguay, Great Popo, Appi, Porto Novo, Badagry, Jacknah, Jabor and the Oddi.

If the Consuls at Lagos and Whydah were to be paid 300*l.* a-year each, and the Agents at the other ports above mentioned 200*l.* a-year each, the charge would amount to 2,600*l.* a-year, being one-fourth less than the expense of a 6-gun brig. Three cruisers would be sufficient, instead

of seven, the number now required; and thus a saving would be effected of nearly 20,000*l.* a-year, and the objects of Her Majesty's Government more likely to be accomplished than by an adherence to the present system.

The trade in the Bight of Biafra is so considerable, that I am sure Mr. Beecroft would be fully and most usefully occupied in confining his attention to British interests in that quarter; and I should therefore recommend his being relieved of the duties arising in those parts of his Consulate which are situated to the westward of the River Benin.

I request you will be pleased to bring this despatch under the notice of their Lordships.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

PROTESTANT BURIAL-GROUND

AT

MADRID.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 8, 1851.*

LONDON :
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

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Correspondence respecting the Protestant Burial-Ground at Madrid.

No. 1.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howden.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, June 30, 1850.

THE question as to establishing a proper and decent place of burial for British subjects who might die at Madrid was under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government at the time of Sir Henry Bulwer's departure from Spain.

I had informed Sir H. Bulwer that before Her Majesty's Government could come to any decision upon this question it would be necessary that I should receive from him a full and comprehensive report upon the various schemes by which it was proposed to establish a burial-ground; but the continued pressure of business at Madrid, and Sir H. Bulwer's sudden departure from that city in 1848, prevented him from executing those instructions; and Her Majesty's Government are still without the information requisite to enable them to decide what to do in the matter.

Her Majesty's Government would gladly see the establishment of a permanent burial-ground for British subjects who may die at Madrid, supposing such an arrangement would meet with the sanction of the Spanish Government, and would not involve an outlay of public money incommensurate with the object in view.

The ground purchased by Lord Bute in 1796 for this express purpose presents itself at first sight as the place best adapted for a burial-ground.

But the whole of that piece of ground is not now belonging to the British Government, a portion of it having, in 1846, at Sir H. Bulwer's recommendation, been exchanged for an equivalent plot of land made over to Her Majesty's Government at that time by a M. Maroto.

Sir H. Bulwer, moreover, reported to Her Majesty's Government that a doubt had been raised whether this piece of ground is not nearer to the city than the law allows any burial-place to be.

It might no doubt be urged that as regards that portion of it which formed part of Lord Bute's purchase no such doubt could exist, because the purchase of that land for a burial-ground had the full concurrence and approbation of the Government of Spain in 1796, and the use of it for such purposes was also again sanctioned by the Spanish Government in 1832. It is, however, very possible that a piece of land which might be well suited for a burial-ground in 1796 might be ill adapted for such a purpose now, and the objections to interments either within or immediately without the walls of a town are now felt to be so great that Her Majesty's Government would not be disposed to insist upon the right of British subjects to bury their dead in that ground if it could be proved that it is inconveniently near to the city, and if an objection on that account were raised by the Spanish Government.

This plot of ground is $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres in extent, and a suggestion has been made to Her Majesty's Government that it might be advantageously sold for building purposes, and that the proceeds of such sale might not only

suffice to purchase another piece of ground in a quarter where land is cheaper, but would go some way towards the expense of inclosing any ground so purchased.

The number of British subjects who have died at Madrid during the present century, so far as Her Majesty's Government are informed, has been so small that, to judge of the future from the past, a space much less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres in extent would suffice for the purpose of a burial-ground at Madrid. The archives at Madrid will probably state the number of British subjects who have died in Madrid in each year since 1800, and I should wish to receive a return of this nature from your Lordship, after your arrival at your post, if you should there find the means of making it, for it is obvious that upon the number of deaths stated in such a return it must in some degree depend whether Her Majesty's Government would be justified in expending any large sum of money on the construction of a burial-ground at Madrid.

But the knowledge Her Majesty's Government have upon these several points is so scanty that I can at present only desire your Lordship generally to send me a full and detailed report from Madrid upon the subject.

The foregoing remarks will place your Lordship in possession of the views which Her Majesty's Government, upon the information they now possess, entertain on this matter, and will assist your Lordship in drawing up your report.

No. 2.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 10.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, September 1, 1850.

Mr. Consular Assistant Brackenbury having returned to Madrid, I am now enabled to give your Lordship that information respecting the burial-ground at Madrid which your Lordship requires in your despatch of the 30th June last.

In October 1846, the widow of Don Pablo Maroto, whose property adjoined on both sides the piece of ground originally purchased in 1796, proposed to Sir Henry Bulwer to effect an exchange of a certain portion, she taking a part on the inner side belonging to the original piece of ground purchased in 1796, and giving in exchange a part of her own ground on the outer side; leaving the British Government with exactly the same extent of ground as formerly; and Mrs. Maroto engaged on her part to defray all legal expenses incurred, and to build a boundary wall on the inner side, should the exchange be effected. This exchange was referred to your Lordship for approval, and having been acceded to by your Lordship on the 19th November, 1846, was formally made on the 30th of January, 1847, the date marked on the legal documents containing the conveyance, and signed by Mrs. Maroto and Sir Henry Bulwer.

In consequence of your Lordship's instructions to Sir H. Bulwer to send home plans and specifications of the most detailed character respecting the burial-ground, Sir Henry Bulwer ordered Mr. Brackenbury to call on Mr. Wenceslao Gaviña, and to go with him to the burial-ground to mark out to him the portion belonging to the British Government, and to instruct him to draw up plans and specifications. It was then that Mr. Wenceslao Gaviña told Mr. Brackenbury that he should of course comply with Sir H. Bulwer's instructions, and draw up the plans and estimates, but that he recommended that before the works should be commenced, previous notice should be given to the Spanish Government, as the ground came within the new boundary wall which had been proposed to be formed by the Spanish Government; and, moreover, should the Spanish Government not carry out the plan of extending the town of Madrid in that direction, nevertheless the burial-ground was within the distance

prescribed by the municipal authorities for the erection of burial-grounds.

Mr. Brackenbury, on his return to the Legation, communicated these observations of M. Gaviña to Sir H. Bulwer, who on the 27th of September following addressed a note to the Spanish Government requesting to be informed whether there would be any objection on the part of the municipal authorities to the ground which had been purchased in the year 1796, and situated outside the Gate of Recoletos, for the purpose of burying British subjects, being used as such. No answer was received from the Spanish Government to this note; and on the 18th of February, 1848, Sir Henry Bulwer addressed a second note to the Spanish Government on this subject, in which he said :

“Not having received notice of any objection to my above-mentioned intention I presume that none exists, and purpose therefore at once carrying the same into effect, though I do not do so without giving your Excellency notice.”

Neither did Sir Henry Bulwer receive from the Spanish Government any answer to this second note; and there the matter rested.

The archives at Madrid contain no record whatsoever of the British subjects who have died since 1800 (no instructions having been given to keep such), consequently I have no means of sending your Lordship any returns of this nature; but Mr. Otway assures me that since the year 1834 up to the present year the amount of deaths of English Protestants are from fifteen to twenty. On many occasions the ecclesiastical authorities have been sufficiently tolerant as to raise no questions as to the religion of the deceased, whenever this question has not been mooted by the family; and the bodies have been buried in consecrated ground. I have an example of this in my own family: my uncle, the Honourable General Meade, died in Madrid last year, and he was interred in the Catholic cemetery.

The Baron de Grovestins, the Dutch Minister, called upon me to speak about the burial of Protestants at Madrid. He appeared very anxious that something should be done by a sort of common action between Protestant countries, and he has written home to his Government on the subject.

I certainly think that if any burial-place be decided on and obtained, it would be advantageous to have it under the protection of all the Protestant Powers; and the details as to the original property and subsequent conservation, and the right and expenses of inhumation, might be a matter of further consideration.

No. 3.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 30, 1850.

I HAVE had under my consideration the report contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant upon the British burial-ground at Madrid; and I have come to the conclusion that the most advisable course to pursue, under present circumstances, will be to sell that ground and to purchase another piece of ground fitted for the purpose of sepulture, and situated beyond that distance from Madrid within which burial of the dead is prohibited by the municipal law.

In the first place, however, it will be proper that your Lordship should explain to the Spanish Minister the intentions of Her Majesty's Government in regard to this matter; and Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that, under the circumstances of the case, the Spanish Government will readily allow Her Majesty's Government to establish a burial-ground in some other situation near to Madrid.

Your Lordship will afterwards endeavour to find some one who will buy at a fair value the ground now belonging to Her Majesty's Government; and you will also look out for one and a-half or two acres of land

situated as I have described, which Her Majesty's Government can acquire by purchase. If the new ground to be so bought was already inclosed, or partially inclosed, by a wall, it would of course be more suitable for the proposed purpose.

It appears probable that the old ground, situated as it is, will sell for a higher price than the value of one and a-half or two acres of land farther off from the city; but your Lordship will make a full report to me, and await further instructions on the matter, before you take any final step with regard to sale or purchase.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 4.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 7.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 30, 1850.

IN conformity with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo respecting the burial-ground for British subjects dying in this capital, and on account of the knowledge possessed by Mr. Brackenbury of what has already passed on the subject, as well as his general zeal and ability, I desired that gentleman to make me a report on the best means of carrying out your Lordship's wishes; and I inclose it herewith for your consideration and ultimate orders. I have addressed a note to M. Pidal, a copy of which is also inclosed, requesting him to inform me if there be any municipal or local objections to the pieces of ground mentioned in the above report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Mr. Brackenbury to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Madrid, October 29, 1850.

IN obedience to your Lordship's instructions to take such steps as might be most conducive to ascertain the value of the ground purchased in 1796 for a Protestant burial-ground, and the possibility of selling it, or exchanging it for other ground, to which it might be expected that the Spanish Government would not raise any difficulty to its being used as a burial-ground for Protestant subjects, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that the first step I took was to call on M. Laguna, the guardian of Mrs. Maroto and her son, whose ground adjoins that which actually belongs to the British Government. M. Laguna took me to see a piece of ground which belongs to Mrs. Maroto and her son, and which is situated outside the Gate of Fuencarral, and lies between two Roman Catholic cemeteries. The next point to be ascertained was the respective value of each piece of ground, and I agreed with M. Laguna that we should each appoint an official land-measurer to survey and value the grounds; and I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship copy and translation of the certificate which I have received from M. S. Abalos, which is also signed by M. Gomez, the land-measurer appointed by M. Laguna. Your Lordship will perceive that each of them agree that the two pieces of ground are of equal value, namely, 3000 reals, or about 30*l.* for each fanega—equal to about 3 roods.

After receiving the certificate alluded to, I again called on M. Laguna to ascertain whether he was willing to abide by the valuation; and having

learnt from him that he was willing, I drew up a provisional agreement in duplicate, signed by each, and subject to the approbation of Her Majesty's Government (and provided the Spanish Government raise no objection to the ground therein specified being used as a Protestant burial-ground), whereby, should the exchange be made, the expense of the deeds of conveyance and all other legal documents necessary to that purpose shall be borne by Mrs. Maroto and her son; and the British Government shall receive in exchange an equal quantity of ground to that which it now holds in the former ground.

I think it right also to inform your Lordship that M. Abalos accompanied his certificate with a letter, copy and translation of which I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship, wherein he recommends that the ground now belonging to the British Government should not be sold at present, as it will in all probability yearly acquire a greater value; and should the town of Madrid increase in that direction, as appears probable, or should the municipality carry out the plan of making a boundary wall beyond the ground, its value would be very much enhanced.

Your Lordship will likewise perceive that M. Abalos hints that the Spanish clergy might also raise some objection to the proposed ground, on the plea of its immediate contiguity to two Roman Catholic cemeteries. Should, however, no difficulty be raised by either the British or Spanish Governments, the ground, in all other respects, appears to me to be eligible.

I have also the honour further to report to your Lordship, that having seen in the paper called the "Official Advertiser" of Madrid, an announcement that the ground therein referred to was to be sold by public auction on the 22nd of next month, I went to see it, and found that it is, as stated in the advertisement, inclosed with a wall and has a house. The property has been officially valued at 47,360 reals, or about 473*l.* 12*s.* There may perhaps be no bidder at the auction, in which case it might be purchased at the price mentioned, or even less; but should there be bidders, it may be sold at a higher price than its valuation.

This ground, as well as any other which may be ultimately purchased and inclosed, would entail the expense of a guard to live in the house and take care of the property.

Having now given to your Lordship such information as I have at present been enabled to obtain on this point, and your Lordship having addressed a note to the Spanish Government to ascertain whether there will be any objection to the grounds I have alluded to being employed as a Protestant burial-ground, I will only add one observation, namely, that in the meeting held at my house on the 26th instant, some of the British subjects asked me whether it had any connexion with the inclosing the British burial-ground, an event which they all most anxiously desired to see carried out, and for which one of them stated that on his part and that of his friends, the sum of 30*l.* would be subscribed.

Hoping that this report may be as satisfactory and as explicit as your Lordship may desire, I have, &c.

(Signed) W. CONGREVE C. BRACKENBURY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Certificate of Land-Measurers.

DON JOSE GOMEZ y Don Simeon Abalos, Agrimensores del Excelentísimo Ayuntamiento de la muy heroica villa de Madrid,

Certifican que nombrado el primero por Don Juan Francisco Martinez de Laguna, y el segundo por el Señor Consul de Su Majestad Británica, para valorar las tierras pertenecientes, la una á la Gran Bretaña, sita extramuros de esta corte por la Puerta de Recoletos, en el camino que llaman de Pajaritos, lindando con la pared de la huerta del Señor Maroto, y frente al costado de la casa de labor de Don Luis Piernas, la cual

despues de reconocida con toda detencion, y vista su calidad y situacion, hallan que esta tierra está considerada como tierra para el cultivo de agricultura, por su calidad, y por hallarse bastante al daño, la tasarían solo á mil doscientos reales vellon fanega, pero como está bastante proxima á la poblacion, teniendo presente su buen porvenir, y la facilidad de poderla enagenar para cercarla, ya sea para hacer casa para labrador, ó huerta, ó hera, la tasan á tres mil reales cada fanega.

Desde este punto se hán trasladado á el sitio donde están situados los cementerios de la Sacramental de San Martin, y de la Patriarcal, mas allá de la Pradera de Guardias, y del camino viejo de Fuencarral, y han reconocido una tierra que pertenece al Don Juan Francisco Martinez de Laguna, que linda con una faja de terreno correspondiente á la pared ó muro que cerca el cementerio de la Patriarcal, y con terreno perteneciente á la sacramental de San Luis, y otros dos particulares; y considerada su calidad para el cultivo de agricultura, es mucho mejor que la de la Gran Bretaña, por lo cual la tasarían á mil quinientos reales fanega, pero considerada su situacion, y la facilidad de poderla vender para agrandar ó ensanchar el cementerio de la Patriarcal, la dan tambien el valor de três mil reales de vellon cada fanega.

Y para que conste lo firman en Madrid, á 28 de Octubre de 1850.

(Firmado) JOZE GOMEZ.
SIMEON ABALOS.

(Translation.)

DON JOSE GOMEZ and Don Simeon Abalos, land-measurers of the Municipal Corporation of the most heroic town of Madrid,

Do hereby certify that the former having been appointed by Don Juan Francisco Martinez de Laguna, and the latter by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, to value the two pieces of land, viz., the one belonging to Great Britain, situated outside the walls of this capital by the Gate of Recoletos, on the road called de Pajaritos, bordering with the wall of Señor Maroto's orchard, and opposite one side of Don Luis Piernas's country-house, which after having been carefully examined, and its quality and position taken into consideration, they found that this piece of land is to be considered as fit for agricultural purposes; and though on account of its quality and of being liable to be injured from its vicinity to the road, they would only value it at 1200 reals vellon a fanega; however, taking into consideration its proximity to the town, and its fair prospects in consequence, besides the facility of selling it to be inclosed and used as a farm-house, an orchard, or a thrashing-ground, they value it at 3000 reals a fanega.

From this place they went to the ground where the cemeteries of the Sacramental de San Martin and of the Patriarcal are situated, beyond the Pradera de Guardias and the old road of Fuencarral, and having examined a piece of land belonging to Don Juan Francisco Martinez de Laguna, bordering on a strip of land corresponding to the wall which incloses the cemetery of the Patriarcal, and on other land belonging to the Sacramental of San Luis, and to two other landowners; and considering that its qualities for cultivation are very superior to those of the piece of land belonging to Great Britain, for which alone they would value it at 1500 reals a fanega; and considering, moreover, the facility of selling it to enlarge the cemetery of the Patriarcal, they also value it at 3000 reals vellon a fanega.

In testimony whereof they sign this in Madrid, this 28th day of October, 1850.

(Signed) JOZE GOMEZ.
SIMEON ABALOS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

M. Abalos to Mr. Brackenbury.

Madrid, 28 de Octubre de 1850.

Muy Señor mio y de todo mi aprecio,

ADJUNTO remito á V. el certificado del valor de las dos tierras, cuyo encargo se sirvió V. hacerme el día 24 del corriente, pero insisto en la misma observacion que hice á V. qtro día, de que yo no dariá ahora la tierra de la Gran Bretaña, porque tiene que llegar un día en que valga mucho mas que lo que hoy vale. Ademas creo de mi deber hacerle á V. una observacion respecto de la tierra del Señor Laguna, cual es, que esta linda con el cementerio de la Patriarcal; y antes de hacer V. la propuesta al Gobierno Inglés, creo que debería dar algun paso á cerca de si el clero Español pondría alguna dificultad en establecer el cementerio Protestante junto á el Catolico.

Queda á su disposicion, &c.

(Firmado)

SIMEON ABALOS.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, October 28, 1850.

I HEREWITH inclose the certificate of the value of the two pieces of land which you requested me to send you on the 24th instant; but I must repeat the observation which I made to you the other day, namely, that I think the piece of land belonging to Great Britain ought not to be exchanged now, because a time must come in which it will be of much higher value than it is at present. Moreover, I consider it my duty to make another observation with regard to the piece of ground belonging to Señor Laguna, which is, that this piece of land borders on the cemetery of the Patriarcal; and before making the proposal to the British Government, I think that some step ought to be taken to inquire whether there will be any difficulty on the part of the Spanish clergy against the establishment of a Protestant cemetery so close to a Catholic one.

I remain, &c.

(Signed)

SIMEON ABALOS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 4.

Lord Howden to the Marquis of Pidal.

Sir,

Madrid, October 25, 1850.

I HAVE received instructions from my Government to obtain a suitable piece of ground for the purpose of forming a cemetery for such British Protestant subjects as may die at Madrid, as I have been given to understand that there are municipal objections to the ground which was purchased by the British Government in 1796 being employed as a cemetery, although it does not appear by the archives of this Legation that any answer was given to the notes of the 27th September, 1847, and 18th February, 1848, addressed by Sir Henry Bulwer to M. Cortazar and the Duke of Sotomayor on this very subject. I have therefore the honour to request your Excellency to inform me whether there are any positive objections to the original piece of ground purchased in 1796 being used for a British Protestant cemetery; and if so, I request your Excellency to inform me whether there will be any objection to my purchasing some ground immediately adjoining a cemetery known as the "Cementerio de la Patriarcal," or adjoining the cemetery of San Ildefonso, or a piece of

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ground which is advertised for sale adjoining the Parador de San Damaso, beyond the Bridge of Toledo, on the Carabanchel road, for the aforesaid object.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 5.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 16.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, December 10, 1850.

WITH reference to previous correspondence I have the honour herewith to forward to your Lordship an answer to the note which I addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting a burial-ground for British Protestant subjects dying in this city.

Your Lordship will see that there are three stipulations made, two of which I believe to be in perfect accordance with treaty. The third appeared to me as stretching the spirit of the two first beyond what was warranted by the letter, and I made a representation upon it.

Inclosure in No. 5.

The Marquis of Pidal to Lord Howden.

Muy Señor mio,

Palacio, 4 de Diciembre de 1850.

HE recibido la nota que vuestra Señoría se ha servido dirigirme con fecha 25 de Octubre ultimo, en la cual manifiesta que habiendo recibido orden de su Gobierno para adquirir un terreno que sirva de cementerio á los súbditos Británicos Protestantes, y teniendo noticia de que la autoridad municipal habia puesto algunos obstáculos respecto del terreno comprado con dicho objeto en el año de 1796, desea saber si habrá alguna dificultad en que se establezca este cementerio en alguno de los terrenos que señala, y en contestacion, tengo la honra de participar á vuestra Señoría que he comunicado al Señor Ministro de la Gobernacion la consulta de vuestra Señoría, á fin de que se sirva manifestarme, previo reconocimiento de los locales mencionados, si habrá inconveniente en que alguno de ellos sea destinado al fin que vuestra Señoría desea.

A su debido tiempo me apresuraré á comunicar á vuestra Señoría la respuesta que reciba, mas en el interim, creo de mi deber, espresarle, para su gobierno, que cualquiera que sea el parage elegido, las condiciones de su concesion por parte del Gobierno de Su Magestad, segun el espiritu de las comunicaciones dirigidas en diferentes ocasiones sobre el particular á la Legacion Británica en este Corte, son las siguientes :

1. Que el terreno deberá cercarse con tapia.
2. Que no prodrá establecerse en él iglesia, capilla, ni otra señal de templo ni de culto publico ni privado ; y
3. Que se evite todo acto que pueda dar indicio del empleo de ritual alguno.

El Gobierno de Su Magestad cree que, ateniendose á estas cláusulas, podrá lograrse el objeto que el Gabinete Británico se propone, sin dar lugar á dificultades y quejas semejantes á las que ya alguna vez se han suscitado relativamente á otros establecimientos de la misma especie.

Aprovecho, &c.
(Firmado) PEDRO J. PIDAL.

(Translation.)

Madrid, December 4, 1850.

I HAVE received the note which you have been pleased to address to me under date of the 25th October last, in which you state that, having been instructed by your Government to obtain a piece of land to

serve as a burial-ground for Protestant British subjects, and having been informed that the municipal authorities had raised some obstacles respecting the ground bought in 1796, you wish to ascertain whether there will be any objection to the establishment of the burial-ground in question in some of the different pieces of land which you point out.

I have the honour to inform you, in reply, that I have communicated your inquiry to the Minister of the Interior, requesting him to let me know, after the proper survey of the localities in question, whether there will be any difficulty against the destination of one of those localities to the object above alluded to.

I shall lose no time in communicating to you the answer which may be returned to me; but, in the meantime, I consider it my duty to inform you, for your guidance, that whatever may be the place selected, the conditions of its concession, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, according to the spirit of the communications addressed on several occasions respecting this matter to the British Legation at this Court, are the following:—

1. That the ground must be inclosed with a wall.
2. That no church, chapel, nor any other sign of a temple, or of public or private worship, will be allowed to be established in it.
3. That any act which may bear the semblance of the use of any ritual whatsoever is to be avoided.

Her Majesty's Government thinks that, by the observance of the preceding conditions, the object which the British Cabinet has in view may be attained without giving rise to difficulties and complaints, similar to those which have already from time to time been raised with regard to other establishments of the same kind.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) PEDRO J. PIDAL.

No. 6.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howden.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, March 24, 1851.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 10th of December last, I have to instruct you to request the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to return a definite answer to the note which you addressed to M. Pidal on the 25th of October, 1850, respecting a British burial-ground at Madrid.

No. 7.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 1, 1851.

IN conformity with your Lordship's instructions, conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 24th ultimo, I have lost no time in addressing the accompanying note to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the English burial-ground at Madrid.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Lord Howden to M. Bertran de Lis.

Sir,

Madrid, March 30, 1851.

ON the 25th of October last, I addressed a note to your Excellency's predecessor respecting a burial-ground near this capital for the Protestant subjects of Her Britannic Majesty; and as Her Majesty's Government, in common with the British residents in Madrid, feel a considerable anxiety on this subject, owing to the indecent manner in which the bodies of their brethren are at this moment interred, and which must, in fact, be as painful for the Christian Government of this country itself as for the Christian relatives themselves of the deceased to witness, I earnestly request your Excellency to furnish me with a definitive answer to the application in question.

The Government of Spain has never for a moment refused to recognize the right, under certain restrictions, to the enjoyment of a burial-ground by British subjects. In fact we have been in possession of one for upwards of half-a-century; but casual circumstances have prevented it being made use of. I will not trouble your Excellency with another report of these circumstances, or by entering into details, all of which will be found consigned in my correspondence with the Marquis of Pidal.

Although your Excellency is no doubt fully aware of the grounds on which we found an application for a new locality, I will, however, inclose a short memorandum on the original question, which may serve for reference; again requesting your Excellency to have the goodness to give your early attention to a subject which so naturally interests the best and most susceptible feelings of so many persons, and indeed no less concerns the nation to which they belong.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 8.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 30, 1851.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of the note which you addressed on the 30th of March to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the British burial-ground at Madrid.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 9.

Lord Howden to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 22.)

My Lord,

Madrid, July 15, 1851.

I HEREWITH inclose to your Lordship a note from the Marquis of Miraflores, by which the final consent of the Spanish Government is given to the establishment of a burial-ground for British subjects.

But I regret to say that the piece of ground available when I addressed my first note to Señor Pidal, and which has been approved by the Spanish municipal and ecclesiastical authorities, has been sold.

Before I make any further communication to the Spanish Government, in consequence of the sale of this piece of ground, I think it right to ask your Lordship whether it would be in the contemplation of Her Majesty's Government to give the British Minister here a discretionary power to buy at once a piece of ground passing through the market, and fitted for the purpose wanted, in order to avoid the mischance which has occurred, and which is likely to occur every time a proposition for survey is made, if there be a necessity of communicating home on the subject.

It will be also necessary to know exactly what amount of money Her Majesty's Government is prepared to lay out in the purchase of a piece of ground, and the walling-in of it, should it be required.

I have instructed Mr. Consul Brackenbury to inform those British residents here who petitioned your Lordship, and who are given to complain of my dilatoriness on a question which I could not possibly hasten, that the permission has been accorded, though it is neutralized for the present by circumstances over which neither your Lordship nor I had any control.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 9.

The Marquis of Miraflores to Lord Howden.

Excelentísimo Señor,

Madrid, 6 de Julio de 1851.

MUY Señor mio, refiriendome á la nota que dirigió á vuestra Excelencia el Marques de Pidal en 4 de Diciembre ultimo, tengo la honra de manifestarle que el Señor Ministro de la Gobernacion del Reyno me avisa con fecha de 3 del corriente, que Su Magestad se ha dignado conceder el permiso solicitado por vuestra Excelencia para la construccion de un cementerio destinado á los subditos Protestantes de su pays, dictando al efecto las siguientes disposiciones :

1. El cementerio se edificará en el cerro llamado de San Damaso, extra muros, de la Puerta de Toledo, sujetandose en su ejecucion á las reglas higienicas ó de salubredad que requieren estos establecimientos.

2. No se permitirá en él, iglesia, capilla, ni otra señal de templo, ni de culto publico ni privado.

3. Se prohíbe todo acto que pueda dar indicio del empleo de ritual alguno. Y

4. Se evitará en la conduccion de los cadaveres, toda clase de pompa y publicidad.

Estas condiciones, como vuestra Excelencia observará, son las mismas contenidas en la nota del Marques de Pidal, y que el Gobierno de Su Magestad ha adoptado, conforme al dictamen emitido sobre el asunto por el Consejo Real.

Solo me resta añadir que el Gobernador de la Provincia de Madrid esta ya avisado de esta Real determinacion, y que vuestra Excelencia puede quando guste, ordenar la ejecucion de la obra.

Aprovecho, &c.
(Firmado) EL MARQUES DE MIRAFLORES.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, July 6, 1851.

WITH reference to the note addressed to you by the Marquis of Pidal on the 4th December last, I have the honour to state to you that the Minister of the Interior has informed me, under date of the 3rd instant, that Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant the permission requested by you for the construction of a burial-ground for British Protestants, under the following conditions :—

1st. The burial-ground will be erected on the hill of San Dámaso, outside the Gate of Toledo, and it will be constructed with subjection to the hygienic or sanitary rules required by establishments of this kind.

2nd. No church, chapel, nor any other sign of a temple, or of public or private worship, will be allowed to be built in the aforesaid burial-ground.

3rd. All acts which may tend to the performance of any Divine service whatsoever are prohibited. And

4th. In the conveyance of the dead bodies to the burial-ground any sort of pomp or publicity shall be avoided.

These conditions, as you will observe, are the same which were contained in the Marquis of Pidal's note, and which have been adopted by Her Majesty's Government, in conformity with the opinion given on that subject by the Royal Council.

I have only to add that this Royal decision has already been communicated to the Governor of the Province of Madrid, and that you may direct the works to be commenced whenever it may suit your convenience.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) EL MARQUES DE MIRAFLORES.

No. 10.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 28, 1851.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th instant, inclosing a copy and translation of a note which the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs has addressed to you, stating that the Spanish Government consent to the establishment of a burial-ground for British subjects at Madrid, upon certain conditions specified in his Excellency's note.

I have to instruct your Lordship to state to the Marquis de Miraflores, that Her Majesty's Government are glad to find that the Spanish Government has at last granted a permission, which, however, Her Majesty's Government are entitled by treaty to demand as of right; but Her Majesty's Government, in acknowledging this tardy compliance with the stipulations of the Treaties between the two Crowns, cannot refrain from adding a strong expression of their deep regret to find that this permission is accompanied by conditions so inconsistent with the liberal spirit of the age, and indicative of a system of religious intolerance on the part of the Spanish Government towards those who profess the Protestant religion, which forms so striking and unfavourable a contrast with the liberal and enlightened system of perfect religious freedom which prevails in the United Kingdom towards the professors of the Roman Catholic faith.

Her Majesty's Government cannot but hope that the time is not far distant when principles of action which belong to an age now long gone by will cease to be, in such matters, the rule of conduct of the Government of Spain.

Your Lordship will give a copy of this despatch to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 11.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 28, 1851.

WITH reference to the difficulty which, from the contents of your despatch of the 15th instant, it appears your Lordship is likely to encounter in obtaining a piece of land for a burial-ground, owing to its being necessary for you to refer the question of purchase, for the decision of Her Majesty's Government, each time that a suitable plot of ground is offered you for sale; I have to authorize your Lordship to conclude for the purchase of any piece of ground properly situated and adapted for the purposes of a burial-ground, provided you shall have satisfied yourself that the sum which Her Majesty's Government are to give for the ground to be purchased, shall not exceed in amount that for which your Lordship will be able to sell the ground purchased by Lord Bute in 1796.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Correspondence respecting the Protestant
Burial-Ground at Madrid.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. August 8, 1851.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS,

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND THE

KING OF THE NETHERLANDS,

RELATIVE

TO THE COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE BETWEEN THE
NETHERLANDS AND THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Signed at London, January 14, 1852.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1852.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

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CONVENTION
BETWEEN
HER MAJESTY
AND
THE KING OF THE NETHERLANDS,
RELATIVE
TO THE COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE BETWEEN THE
NETHERLANDS AND THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Signed at London, January 14, 1852.

[Ratifications exchanged at London, May 14, 1852.]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, on the one part, and His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, on the other part, being desirous of promoting the relations of Commerce and Navigation existing between the United States of the Ionian Islands, which are under the protection of Her Britannic Majesty, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, have agreed to conclude a Convention for that purpose, and have named as their respective Plenipotentiaries, that is to say :

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable Granville George, Earl Granville, Viscount Granville, Baron Leveson, a Peer of the United Kingdom, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and the Right Honourable Henry Labouchere, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, and President of the Committee of Privy Council for Affairs of Trade and Foreign Plantations;

And His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, Adolphus Baron Bentinck, Minister of State, Commander

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HARE Majesteit de Koningin van het Vereenigd Koningryk van Groot Brittanje en Ierland ter eenre zyde, en Zyne Majesteit de Koning der Nederlanden ter andere zyde, wenshende te bevorderen de handels en scheepvaart betrekkingen tusschen de Vereenigde Staten der Ionische Eilanden, welke onder de bescherming geplaatst zyn van Hare Groot Brittannische Majesteit, en het Koningryk der Nederlanden, zyn overeengekomen te dien einde eene Conventie te sluiten, en hebben tot hunne Gevolmagtigden benoemd, te weten :

Hare Majesteit de Koningin van het Vereenigd Koningryk van Groot Brittanje en Ierland, den Heer Granville George, Graaf Granville, Burggraaf Granville, Baron Leveson, Pair van het Vereenigd Koningryk, Lid van Harer Brittannische Majesteits meest eervollen Geheimen Raad, en Harer Brittannische Majesteits Voornaamsten Secretaris van Staat voor Buitenslandsche Zaken; en den Heer Henry Labouchere, Lid van Harer Brittannische Majesteits meest eervollen Geheimen Raad, Lid van het Parlement, en Voorzitter der Commissie van den Geheimen Raad voor de Zaken van Handel en Kolonien;

En Zyne Majesteit de Koning der Nederlanden, den Heer Adolph Baron Bentinck, Minister van Staat, Kom-

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of the Royal Order of the Netherland Lion, Knight Grand Cross of the Orders of Charles III of Spain, of Leopold of Belgium, and of the Redeemer of Greece; Commander of the Order of the Crown of Wurtemberg; Knight of the Red Eagle of Prussia of the third class; His Majesty's Chamberlain, and Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles:

ARTICLE I.

The inhabitants and vessels of the Ionian Islands shall enjoy, in the dominions of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, all the advantages which are granted by the Treaty of the 27th of October, 1837, between Great Britain and the Netherlands, and by the Convention Additional to that Treaty, signed on the 27th of March, 1851, to the inhabitants and vessels of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as soon and for so long as the Government of the Ionian Islands shall grant to the inhabitants and vessels of the Netherlands the same advantages which are granted in those Islands to the inhabitants and vessels of Great Britain; on condition that, in order to prevent abuses, every Ionian vessel claiming the privileges of the said Treaty and Convention, shall be provided with a patent signed by the Lord High Commissioner or his representative.

ARTICLE II.

The present Convention shall have the same duration as the said Treaty of the 27th of October, 1837.

It shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London as soon as may be within three months after the day of signature.

mandeur der Koninklyke Orde van den Nederlandschen Leeuw, Ridder Groot Kruis der Orden van Karel III van Spanje, van Leopold van Belgie, en van den Verlosser van Griekenland; Kommandeur der Orde van de Wurtembergsche Kroon; Ridder der Orde van den Rooden Adelaar van Pruissen, derde klasse, Hoogstdezelfs Kamerheer en Buitengewoon Gezant en Gevolmagtigd Minister by Hare Majesteit de Koningin van het Vereenigd Koningryk van Groot Brittanje en Ierland;

Welke, na elkander hunne wederzydsche volmagten, die in goeden en behoorlyken vorm zyn bevonden, te hebben medegedeeld, het volgende hebben bepaald:

ARTIKEL I.

De ingezetenen en schepen der Ionische Eilanden zullen in de Staten van Zyne Majesteit den Koning der Nederlanden, alle de voordeelen genieten welke by het tusschen Groot Brittanje en Nederland, gesloten Tractaat van 27 October, 1837, en by de Additionele Conventie tot dat Tractaat, geteekend den 27 Maart, 1851, aan de ingezetenen en schepen van het Vereenigd Koningryk van Groot Brittanje en Ierland, zyn toegekend, van het oogenblik af en zoo lang als de Regering der Ionische Eilanden aan de Nederlandsche ingezetenen en schepen dezelfde voordeelen zal toekennen welke zy op die Eilanden toekend aan de ingezetenen en schepen van Groot Brittanje; met bepaling dat, ter voorkoming van misbruik, elk Ionisch schip, hetwelk de voorregten van opgedacht Tractaat en van opgedachte Conventie inroept, zal behooren voorzien te zyn van eenen scheepsbrief door den Lord Hoog Commissaris of door diens vertegenwoordiger geteekend.

ARTIKEL II.

De tegenwoordige Overeenkomst zal van denzelfden duur zyn als het voorschreven Tractaat van 27 October, 1837.

Zy zal worden bekrachtigd, en de acten van bekrachtiging zullen te Londen worden uitgewisseld binnen drie maanden na den dag der teekening, of zoo mogelyk vroeger.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Ter oorkonde waarvan de wederzydsche Gevolmagtigden dezelve hebben geteekend, en met hunne cachetten bezegeld.

Done at London, the fourteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

Gedaan te Londen, den veertienden January, in den jare Onzes Heere een duizend acht honderd twee en vyftig.

(L.S.) GRANVILLE.

(L.S.) GRANVILLE.

(L.S.) H. LABOUCHERE.

(L.S.) H. LABOUCHERE.

(L.S.) BENTINCK.

(L.S.) BENTINCK.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the King
of the Netherlands, relative to the Commercial
Intercourse between the Netherlands and the
Ionian Islands.

Signed at London, January 14, 1852.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1852.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

T R E A T Y
BETWEEN
HER MAJESTY
AND THE
REPUBLIC OF NEW GRANADA,
FOR
THE SUPPRESSION
OF
THE SLAVE TRADE.

Signed at Bogotá, April 2, 1851.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1852.*

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LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

TREATY
BETWEEN
HER MAJESTY
AND
THE REPUBLIC OF NEW GRANADA,
FOR
THE SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

Signed at Bogotá, April 2, 1851.

[*Ratifications exchanged at Bogotá, December 16, 1851.*]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Republic of New Granada, being equally animated by a sincere desire to co-operate for the utter extinction of the detestable and criminal Traffic in Slaves, have resolved to conclude a Treaty for the special purpose of attaining this object; and have respectively named for this purpose as their Plenipotentiaries, to wit:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Daniel Florence O'Leary, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in the Republic of New Granada;

And the President of the Republic of New Granada, Señor Victoriano de Diego Paredes, Granadian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, and found them to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:

ARTICLE I.

The introduction of slaves into the territory of New Granada having been prohibited by law, all Traffic in Slaves in any and every part of the world is

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LA República de la Nueva Granada, y Su Majestad la Reina del Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda, estando igualmente animadas por un sincero deseo de co-operar á la total estincion del detestable y criminal Trafico de Esclavos, han resuelto concluir un Tratado para el especial intento de conseguir este objeto; y han nombrado respectivamente para este fin como sus Plenipotenciarios, á saber:

El Presidente de la República de la Nueva Granada, al Señor Victoriano de Diego Paredes, Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores de la Nueva Granada;

Y Su Majestad la Reina del Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda, al Señor Daniel Florencio O'Leary, encargado de Negocios de Su Majestad Britanica en la República de la Nueva Granada;

Quienes, habiendose comunicado sus respectivos plenos poderes, y hallado que estaban en propia y debida forma, han acordado y concluido los Articulos siguientes:

ARTICULO I.

Habiendose prohibido por ley la introduccion de esclavos al territorio de la Nueva Granada, se declara por el presente Tratado prohibido en adelante

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hereby declared to be henceforward and for ever prohibited to Granadian citizens, as it has long been by the law of Great Britain for all British subjects; and all Granadian citizens who shall engage in the Slave Trade, by sea or by land, or who shall make use of the Granadian flag for the transport of slaves from any place to any other place, shall be treated and punished as pirates, conformably to the laws of New Granada.

y para siempre á los ciudadanos Granadinos todo Tráfico de Esclavos en todas y cada una de las partes del mundo, como lo ha estado hace mucho tiempo por las leyes de la Gran Bretaña para todos los subditos Británicos; y todos los ciudadanos Granadinos que se ocuparen en el Comercio de Esclavos por mar ó por tierra, ó que se hicieren uso de la bandera Granadina para el transporte de esclavos de un lugar á otro cualquiera, serán tratados y castigados como piratas, conforme á las leyes de la Nueva Granada.

ARTICLE II.

In order more completely to accomplish the object of the present Treaty, the two High Contracting Parties agree to authorize some of the ships of war of their navies, respectively, to visit and search merchant-vessels of the two nations which may be met with at sea within the limits to be hereinafter specified, and which, by the direction of their course, or upon other reasonable grounds, shall afford motives for suspecting that they are engaged in the Slave Trade; and likewise, under the circumstances mentioned in this Treaty, to detain, carry away, or send away such vessels, in order that they may be brought to trial in the manner hereinafter agreed upon.

ARTICULO II.

A fin de efectuar mas completamente el objeto del presente Tratado, las dos Altas Partes Contratantes convienen en autorizar á algunos de los buques de guerra de sus marinas respectivas para visitar y registrar á los buques mercantes de las dos naciones, que sean encontrados en el mar dentro de los limites que se especificarán adelante, y que por la direccion de su rumbo, ó por otros fundamentos razonables, suministren motivos para sospechar que estan ocupados en el Comercio de Esclavos; é igualmente, bajo las circunstancias mencionadas en este Tratado, para detener, llevarse, ó enviar semejantes buques, á fin de que sean sometidos á juicio de la manera acordada en este Tratado.

ARTICLE III.

The limits within which the merchant-vessels of the two nations shall be subject to the visit and search mentioned in the preceding Article, shall be the following:

1st. From the thirty-fifth degree of west longitude, reckoned from the meridian of London, to the coast of Africa; and from the fifteenth degree of north latitude to the twentieth degree of south latitude.

2nd. All round the Island of Madagascar, to the extent of thirty leagues from that island.

3rd. All along the east coast of Africa, from latitude ten degrees north of the Equator, to the twenty-sixth degree of south latitude, and to the extent of thirty leagues from that coast.

4th. The same distance all round from the coasts of the Island of Cuba.

5th. The same distance from the coasts of the Island of Puerto Rico; and

ARTICULO III.

Los limites dentro de los cuales los buques mercantes de las dos naciones estarán sujetos á la visita y registro mencionados en el Artículo precedente, serán los siguientes:

1°. Desde el grado trijesimo-quinto de longitud occidental, contado desde el meridiano de Londres, hasta la costa de Africa; y desde el grado decimo-quinto de latitud septentrional hasta el grado vigesimo de latitud meridional.

2°. Todo alrededor de la Isla de Madagascar, hasta la estension de treinta leguas contadas desde aquella isla.

3. Todo á lo largo de la costa oriental de Africa, desde el decimo grado de latitud al norte del Ecuador, hasta el grado vigesimo-sesto de latitud meridional, y hasta la estension de treinta leguas de distancia de aquella costa.

4°. La misma distancia todo alrededor de las costas de la Isla de Cuba.

5°. La misma distancia de las costas de la Isla de Puerto Rico; y

6th. The same distance from the coasts of Brazil.

It is however understood, that a suspected vessel descried and begun to be chased by the cruizers, whilst within the said space of thirty leagues, may be searched by them beyond those limits, if, without ever having lost sight of her, they should succeed in coming up with her at a greater distance from any of the above-mentioned coasts.

ARTICLE IV.

All merchant-vessels of the two nations which shall be visited in virtue of this Treaty, and which shall be found either with slaves on board, or equipped for Slave Trade, shall be detained, and shall be sent or carried to one of the ports under British jurisdiction, if the vessel detained should be British, or to one of the ports of New Granada, if the vessel detained should be Granadian, to be tried by the courts which take cognizance of the crime of piracy, according to the laws of the respective countries.

And such vessels, with the whole of their cargoes, shall be subject to the penalty of confiscation for having been found engaged in the Slave Trade.

ARTICLE V.

Every merchant-vessel, British or Granadian, which shall be visited in virtue of the provisions contained in the Articles II and III of the present Treaty, may lawfully be detained, and be sent or brought before the proper tribunals, according to the nation to which it may belong, if any one or more of the things hereinafter specified shall be found in her outfit or equipment :

1st. Hatches with open gratings, instead of the close hatches which are usual in merchant-vessels.

2nd. Divisions or bulkheads in the hold or on deck, in greater number than are necessary for vessels engaged in lawful trade.

3rd. Spare plank fitted for being laid down as a second or slave-deck.

4th. Shackles, bolts, or handcuffs.

5th. A larger quantity of water in casks or tanks than is requisite for the consumption of the crew of the vessel as a merchant-vessel.

6th. An extraordinary number of

6°. La misma distancia de las costas del Brasil.

Se entiende sin embargo, que un buque sospechado, avistado y al cual haya comenzado á darsele caza por los cruceros, á tiempo que esté dentro del dicho espacio de treinta leguas, puede ser registrado por ellos mas alla de aquellos limites, si, sin haberlo perdido de vista, se consiguiera alcanzarlo á mayor distancia de cualquiera de las costas arriba mencionadas.

ARTICULO IV.

Todos los buques mercantes de las dos naciones que fueren visitados en virtud de este Tratado, y que fueren hallados, ya sea con esclavos abordo, ó equipados para el Comercio de Esclavos; serán detenidos, y serán enviados ó llevados á uno de los puertos que esten bajo la jurisdiccion Britanica, si el buque detenido fuere Britanico, ó á uno de los puertos de la Nueva Granada, si el buque detenido fuere Granadino; y serán juzgados por los tribunales que conocen del crimen de pirateria, conforme á las leyes de los respectivos paises.

Y tales buques, con el total de sus cargamentos, quedarán sujetos á la pena de confiscacion por haberseles hallado ocupados en el Comercio de Esclavos.

ARTICULO V.

Todo buque mercante, Britanico ó Granadino, que fuere visitado en virtud de las estipulaciones contenidas en los Articulos II y III del presente Tratado, puede ser legalmente detenido, y enviado ó presentado á los tribunales competentes, segun la nacion á que pertenezca, si una ó mas de las cosas especificadas á continuacion se encontraren en su apresto ó equipo:

1°. Escotillas con rejas abiertas, en lugar de las escotillas cerradas que se usan en los buques mercantes.

2°. Divisiones ó mamparas en la bodega ó sobre cubierta, en mayor numero de las que son necesarias para los buques ocupados en comercio legal.

3°. Tablazon de repuesto adaptado para colocarlo como una segunda cubierta ó cubierta para esclavos.

4°. Cadenas, grillos, ó esposas.

5°. Mayor cantidad de agua en barriles ó aljibes de la que se requiere para el consumo de la tripulacion del buque como buque mercante.

6°. Un numero extraordinario de

water-casks, or of other receptacles for holding liquid ; unless the master shall produce a certificate from the custom-house at the place from which he cleared outwards, stating that sufficient security had been given by the owners of such vessel that such extra quantity of casks or of other receptacles for holding liquid, should only be used to hold palm-oil, or for other purposes of lawful commerce.

7th. A greater quantity of mess-tubs or kids than are requisite for the use of the crew of the vessel as a merchant-vessel.

8th. A boiler, or other cooking apparatus of an unusual size, and larger, or fitted for being made larger, than requisite for the use of the crew of the vessel as a merchant-vessel ; or more than one boiler or other cooking apparatus of the ordinary size.

9th. An extraordinary quantity of rice, of the flour of Brazil, manioc or cassada, commonly called farinha ; of maize, or of Indian corn, or of any other article of food whatever, beyond what might probably be requisite for the use of the crew.

10th. A quantity of mats or matting greater than is necessary for the use of the vessel as a merchant-vessel.

The articles enumerated in the 8th, 9th, and 10th paragraphs, when found on board, shall not expose the vessel to detention or trial, whenever such articles shall appear as entered in the manifest as part of the cargo for trade.

Any one or more of the several things above enumerated, if proved to have been found on board, shall be considered as *prima facie* evidence of the actual employment of the vessel in the Slave Trade ; and the vessel shall thereupon be condemned, and be declared lawful prize, unless clear and undisputable evidence, on the part of the master or owners, shall establish, to the satisfaction of the court, that such vessel was, at the time of her detention or capture, employed in some legal pursuit ; and that such of the several things above enumerated, as were found on board her, at the time of her detention, were needed for legal purposes on that particular voyage.

toneles para agua, ó de otros receptáculos para guardar líquidos ; á no ser que el capitán presente un certificado de la aduana del lugar de donde fué despachado, que manifieste que se habia dado por los propietarios de tal buque suficiente seguridad de que aquella cantidad sobrante de barriles ó de otros receptáculos para echar líquidos solo se usaria para echar aceite de palma, ó para otros fines de comercio legal.

7°. Mayor cantidad de vasijas para el rancho ó cubetas, de las que son necesarias para el uso de la tripulacion del buque como buque mercante.

8°. Un caldero ú otro aparato para cocinar de tamaño no usado, y mas grande, ó acomodado para hacerlo mas grande, de lo que se requiere para el uso de la tripulacion del buque como buque mercante ; ó mas de un caldero ú otro aparato de cocinar del grandor ordinario.

9°. Una extraordinaria cantidad de arroz ó de la harina de yuca del Brasil, ó casabe comunmente llamada farinha, de maíz ó trigo de Indias, ó de algun otro articulo de alimento cualquiera, mas de lo que pudiera probablemente necesitarse para el uso de la tripulacion.

10°. Una cantidad de esteras ó pailletas mayor de la que es necesaria para el uso del buque como buque mercante.

Cuando se encuentren abordo los articulos enumerados en los paragrafos 8°, 9°, y 10°, no espondrán el buque á detencion ni á juicio, siempre que tales articulos aparezcan puestos en el manifiesto como parte del cargamento para el comercio.

Si se probare que una ó mas de las varias cosas arriba enumeradas han sido encontradas abordo, ellas serán consideradas como testimonio *prima facie* (á primera vista) del actual empleo del buque en el Comercio de Esclavos ; y en consecuencia el buque será condenado, y declarado presa legal, á menos que pruebas claras é indisputables, por parte del capitán ó de los propietarios, confirmen á satisfaccion del tribunal, que semejante buque estaba, al tiempo de su detencion ó captura, empleado en alguna ocupacion legal ; y que aquellas de las diversas cosas arriba enumeradas que se hallaron á su bordo al tiempo de su detencion, se necesitaban para objetos legales en aquel viage particular.

ARTICLE VI.

In order to regulate the mode of carrying into execution the visit of merchant-vessels of the two nations, by the cruizers charged with the duty of preventing the Slave Trade, it is agreed that the commanders of such cruizers shall be furnished with copies of this Treaty in English and in Spanish, and with copies of the Instructions contained in the Appendix annexed thereto, which Instructions shall be considered as an integral part of the present Treaty.

ARTICULO VI.

Con el fin de arreglar el modo de llevar á efecto la visita de los buques mercantes de las dos naciones, por los cruceros encargados de la obligacion de impedir el Comercio de Esclavos, se conviene en que los comandantes de tales cruceros serán provistos de copias de este Tratado en Ingles y en Español, y de copias de las Instrucciones contenidas en el Apendice anexo á el, las cuales Instrucciones se considerarán como parte integrante del presente Tratado.

ARTICLE VII.

If the commanding officer of any of those ships of the navies of Great Britain and of the Granadian Republic, respectively, which shall be duly commissioned according to the provisions of this Treaty, shall deviate in any respect from the stipulations of the said Treaty, or from the Instructions annexed to it, the Government which shall conceive itself to be wronged thereby, shall be entitled to demand reparation; and in such case, the Government to which such commanding officer may belong, binds itself to cause inquiry to be made into the subject matter of the complaint, and to inflict upon the said officer a punishment proportioned to the transgression committed.

ARTICULO VII.

Si el oficial comandante de cualquiera de aquellos buques de las marinas de la Gran Bretaña y de la República Granadina, respectivamente, que fuere debidamente comisionado conforme á las estipulaciones de este Tratado, se desviare bajo cualquier aspecto de las estipulaciones del dicho Tratado, ó de las Instrucciones anexas á él, el Gobierno que se considere agraviado por ello, tendrá derecho á pedir reparacion; y en tal caso, el Gobierno á quien pertenezca tal oficial comandante, se obliga á mandar hacer averiguacion sobre la materia de la queja, y á infligir al oficial un castigo proporcionado á la transgresion cometida.

ARTICLE VIII.

The two High Contracting Parties mutually engage to make good the damages and losses which may be incurred by the illegal detention of the vessels of their respective subjects or citizens; it being understood that the Government to which the capturing ship belongs, shall pay the damages and losses occasioned to the captured vessel; and that this payment shall be made within the term of one year reckoned from the day on which the proper tribunal shall have pronounced a definitive sentence on the vessel for the detention of which such compensation is claimed.

ARTICULO VIII.

Las dos Altas Partes Contratantes se comprometen mutuamente á pagar los daños y perdidas en que se incurra por la detencion ilegal de los buques de sus respectivos subditos ó ciudadanos; entendiendose que el Gobierno á quien pertenece el buque apresador pagará los daños y perdidas ocasionados al buque capturado; y que este pago se hará dentro del termino de un año contado desde el dia en que el tribunal competente haya pronunciado sentencia definitiva respecto del buque por cuya detencion se reclame tal compensacion.

ARTICLE IX.

If any of the things specified in Article V of this Treaty shall be found

ARTICULO IX.

Si cualquiera de las cosas especificadas en el Artículo V de este Tratado

in any merchant-vessel detained under this Treaty, no compensation for losses, damages, or expenses, consequent upon the detention of such vessel, shall, in any case, be granted either to her master, or to her owner, or to any other person interested in her equipment or cargo, even though the proper tribunal should not pronounce any sentence of condemnation in consequence of her detention.

fuere hallada en algun buque mercante detenido con arreglo á este Tratado, no se concederá en ningun caso compensacion por perdidas, daños, ó costos consiguientes á la detencion de tal buque ni á su capitan, ni á su dueño, ni á cualquiera otra persona interesada en su equipo ó cargamento, aunque el tribunal competente no pronuncie sentencia alguna de condenacion á consecuencia de su detencion.

ARTICLE X.

It is hereby agreed between the two High Contracting Parties, that in all cases in which a vessel shall be detained under this Treaty, by their respective cruisers, as having been engaged in the Slave Trade, or as having been fitted out for the purposes thereof, and shall in consequence thereof be adjudged and condemned by the proper tribunal, the said vessel shall, immediately after condemnation, be broken up entirely into several parts, so as to be useless as a vessel, and shall be sold in separate parts, after having been so broken up.

ARTICULO X.

Se conviene entre las dos Altas Partes Contratantes, que en todos los casos en que un buque fuere detenido, conforme á este Tratado, por sus respectivos cruceros, por haber estado ocupado en el Comercio de Esclavos, ó por haber sido equipado para los objetos de tal comercio, y á consecuencia de esto fuere sentenciado y condenado por el tribunal competente, el dicho buque, inmediatamente despues de la condenacion, será desbaratado enteramente en diferentes partes, de manera que quede inutil en calidad de buque, y será vendido en partes separadas, despues de haber sido asi desbaratado.

ARTICLE XI.

The visit and detention of vessels, in pursuance of Article II of this Treaty, shall be effected only by such of the ships of the British and Granadian navies, respectively, as shall be provided with the special Instructions contained in the Appendix annexed to this Treaty; and each of the two High Contracting Parties shall from time to time communicate to each other the names of the ships of war which are furnished with such Instructions, the force of each ship, and the names of their several commanders.

ARTICULO XI.

La visita y detencion de los buques, en cumplimiento del Artículo II de este Tratado, se efectuarán solo por aquellos de los buques de las marinas Britanica y Granadina, respectivamente, que fueren provistos con las Instrucciones especiales contenidas en el Apéndice anexo á este Tratado; y cada una de las dos Altas Partes Contratantes comunicará de tiempo en tiempo á la otra los nombres de los buques de guerra que esten provistos de semejantes Instrucciones, la fuerza de cada buque, y los nombres de sus diversos Comandantes.

ARTICLE XII.

It is by no means to be understood, that by the provisions of the present Treaty, New Granada shall be under any obligation to fit out cruisers expressly to aid in the pursuit of vessels engaged in the Slave Trade.

ARTICULO XII.

De ninguna manera debe entenderse, que por las estipulaciones del presente Tratado, la Nueva Granada contraiga obligacion alguna de equipar cruceros espresamente para ayudar en la persecucion de los buques ocupados en el Comercio de Esclavos.

ARTICLE XIII.

All the slaves who are found on board a merchant-vessel detained either by British or Granadian cruizers, in conformity with the stipulations of this Treaty, shall be placed at the disposal of Her Britannic Majesty's Government at the time and at the several ports which shall be stipulated in the Appendix annexed to this Treaty, and shall immediately be set at liberty, and shall be secured in the permanent enjoyment of their freedom.

ARTICULO XIII.

Todos los esclavos que se encuentren a bordo de un buque mercante detenido, ya sea por cruceros Británicos ó Granadinos, en conformidad con las estipulaciones de éste Tratado, serán puestos á la disposicion del Gobierno de Su Majestad Británica en el tiempo y en los diferentes puertos que se estipularán en el Apendice anexo á este Tratado; y serán inmediatamente puestos en libertad, y se les asegurará en el goce permanente de ella.

ARTICLE XIV.

The High Contracting Parties to the present Treaty mutually agree, that if, at the expiration of twenty-four years, reckoned from the date of the exchange of the ratifications thereof, it shall appear desirable to either of the Contracting Parties, either on account of the Trade in Slaves having ceased, or for other reasons, that the present Treaty should cease and determine, it shall be lawful for that one of the Contracting Parties to give notice thereof to the other Contracting Party; and the Treaty shall cease and determine accordingly at the end of one year from the date of the receipt of such notice.

And it is clearly understood, that if, in pursuance of the right which the High Contracting Parties reserve to themselves by this Article, the present Treaty should be annulled, at any time anterior to the total and final cessation of the Traffic in Slaves, the obligations contracted towards Great Britain by the Republic of New Granada, by Article XIII of the Treaty of 1825, "to co-operate with Great Britain for the total abolition of the Slave Trade," will nevertheless remain in full force until such total and final abolition is effected.

ARTICULO XIV.

Las dos Altas Partes Contratantes del presente Tratado convienen mutuamente, en que si al fin de veinte y cuatro años, contados desde la fecha del cange de las ratificaciones de él, pareciere conveniente á cualquiera de las Partes, sea con motivo de haber cesado el Comercio de Esclavos, ó por otras razones, que cese y termine el presente Tratado, será lícito para aquella de las Partes Contratantes el dar noticia de ello á la otra; y el Tratado cesará y terminará en conformidad, al fin de un año contado desde la fecha del recibo de tal noticia.

Y se entiende claramente, que si en ejercicio del derecho que las Altas Partes Contratantes se reservan por este Artículo, el presente Tratado fuere anulado en cualquier tiempo anterior á la total cesacion del Trafico de Esclavos, las obligaciones contraídas para con la Gran Bretaña por la Republica de la Nueva Granada por el Artículo XIII del Tratado de 1825, "de co-operar con la Gran Bretaña para la total abolicion del Comercio de Esclavos," permanecerán sin embargo en plena fuerza, hasta que se efectue semejante total y final abolicion.

ARTICLE XV.

The present Treaty, consisting of Fifteen Articles, shall come into operation on the 7th of March, 1852. The Treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications thereof exchanged in Bogotá, within the space of nine months from this date, or sooner if possible.

ARTICULO XV.

El presente Tratado, que consta de Quince Artículos, tendrá efecto desde el día 7 de Marzo de 1852; y será ratificado, y las ratificaciones cangeadas en Bogotá, dentro del termino de nueve meses contados desde esta fecha, ó mas pronto si fuere posible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have thereunto affixed their respective seals:

Done at Bogotá, this second day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

DANIEL F. O'LEARY. (L.S.)

VICTOR DE D. PAREDES. (L.S.)

En testimonio de lo cual los respectivos Plenipotenciarios lo han firmado, y le han fijado sus respectivos sellos.

Fecho en Bogotá en este día, dos de Abril, en el año de nuestro Señor mil ocho cientos cincuenta y uno.

VICTOR DE D. PAREDES. (L.S.)

DANIEL F. O'LEARY. (L.S.)

APPENDIX,

Which contains the Instructions for the Ships of the British and Granadian Navies employed in preventing the Slave Trade.

ARTICLE I.

THE commander of any ship belonging to the navy of Her Britannic Majesty or of the Republic of New Granada, which shall be furnished with these Instructions, shall have a right to visit and search, within the limits mentioned in Article III of the Treaty signed this day, any British or Granadian merchant-vessel suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade, or of being fitted out for the purposes thereof; and if from the search it shall appear that the suspicions entertained are well-founded, such commander shall have the right of detaining such vessel; and shall thereupon, as soon as possible, carry or send the vessel so captured to any one of the ports hereinafter mentioned, which shall be nearest to the place where the vessel was detained, or which such commander shall, upon his own responsibility, think can be soonest reached from such place, in order to be tried according to the provisions of Article IV of this Treaty.

ARTICLE II.

Whenever a ship of war of either of the two High Contracting Parties, duly authorized as aforesaid, shall meet a merchant-vessel liable to be visited under the provisions of the said Treaty, the search of such vessel shall be conducted in the mildest manner, and with every attention which ought to be observed between allied and friendly nations; and the search shall in all

APENDICE,

Que contiene las Instrucciones para los Buques de las Marinas Britanica y Granadina empleados en impedir el Comercio de Esclavos.

ARTICULO I.

EL comandante de cualquier buque perteneciente á la marina de Su Majestad Britanica ó de la República de Nueva Granada, que fuere provisto de estas Instrucciones, tendrá derecho de visitar y registrar, dentro de los limites mencionados en el Artículo III del Tratado firmado hoy, á cualquier buque mercante Britanico ó Granadino sospechado de estar ocupado en el Comercio de Esclavos, ó de estar equipado para los fines de él; y si del registro apareciere que las sospechas concebidas son bien fundadas, dicho comandante tendrá el derecho de detener semejante buque; y en consecuencia llevará ó remitirá el buque así capturado tan pronto como fuere posible á cualquiera de los puertos que se mencionarán adelante que estuviere mas proximo al parage donde fué detenido el buque, ó al que dicho comandante crea, bajo su responsabilidad, que puede llegarse mas presto desde tal parage, á fin de que sea juzgado conforme á las estipulaciones del Artículo IV de este Tratado.

ARTICULO II.

Siempre que un buque de guerra de cualquiera de las dos Altas Partes Contratantes, debidamente autorizado como se ha dicho, encuentre á un buque mercante sujeto á ser visitado con arreglo á las estipulaciones del dicho Tratado, el registro de tal buque será ejecutado de la manera mas suave, y con todas las atenciones que deben observarse entre naciones aliadas y amigas;

cases be made by an officer holding a rank not lower than that of Lieutenant in the British or Granadian navies, respectively (unless the command shall by reason of death, or otherwise, have devolved upon an officer of inferior rank), or by the officer who at the time shall be second in command of the ship by which the search is made.

ARTICLE III.

The commander of any ship of war of the two nations, duly authorized as aforesaid, who may detain any merchant-vessel, in pursuance of the present Instructions, shall leave on board the vessel so detained, the master, the mate or boatswain, and two or three at least of the crew thereof, the whole of the slaves, if any, and all the cargo.

The captor shall at the time of detention draw up in writing an authentic declaration, which shall exhibit the state in which he found the detained vessel; and such declaration shall be signed by himself, and shall be given in or sent in, together with the captured vessel, to the court before which such vessel shall be carried or sent for adjudication.

The captor shall deliver to the master of the detained vessel a certified list of the papers seized on board the same, as well as a statement of the number of slaves, if any, found on board at the moment of detention.

In the authenticated declaration which the captor is hereby required to make, as well as in the certified list of the papers seized, the captor shall insert his own name, the name of the capturing ship, the latitude and longitude of the place where the detention shall have been made, and the number of slaves, if any, found on board the vessel at the time of her detention.

The officer in charge of the vessel detained shall, at the time when he brings the vessel's papers to the proper tribunal, deliver into the court a paper signed by himself, and verified on oath, stating any changes which may have taken place in respect to the vessel, her crew, the slaves, if any, and her cargo, between the period of her detention and the time of delivering in such paper.

y el registro se hará en todos los casos por un oficial que tenga un rango que no sea inferior al de Teniente en las marinas Britanica ó Granadina, respectivamente (á no ser que el mando haya recaído por razon de muerte ó por otro motivo, en un oficial de rango inferior), ó por el oficial que en aquel tiempo fuere segundo en el mando del buque por el cual se hace el registro.

ARTICULO III.

El comandante de cualquier buque de guerra de las dos naciones, debidamente autorizado como se ha dicho, que detenga algun buque mercante, en cumplimiento de las presentes Instrucciones, dejará abordo del buque así detenido, al maestre, al contra-maestre ó piloto, y á dos ó tres hombres, por lo menos, de la tripulacion de él, el total de los esclavos, si hubiere algunos, y todo el cargamento.

El apresador, al tiempo de la detencion, estenderá por escrito una declaracion autentica que manifieste el estado en que él encontró al buque detenido; y tal declaracion será firmada por él mismo, y será dada ó remitida, juntamente con el buque capturado, al tribunal ante el cual fuere llevado tal buque ó enviado para su juzgamiento.

El apresador entregará al capitán del buque detenido una lista certificada de los papeles embargados abordo del mismo, igualmente que un estado del numero de esclavos, si hubiere algunos hallados abordo en el momento de la detencion.

En la declaracion autentica que se exige aquí que el apresador haga, lo mismo que en la lista certificada de los papeles embargados, el apresador insertará su propia nombre, el nombre del buque apresante, la latitud y longitud del sitio donde se hubiere hecho la detencion, y el numero de esclavos, si hubiere algunos hallados abordo del buque al tiempo de su detencion.

El oficial encargado del buque detenido, al tiempo que lleve los papeles del buque al tribunal competente, entregará en dicho tribunal un papel firmado por él mismo, y comprobado con juramento, que manifieste cualesquiera mutaciones que hayan tenido lugar con respecto al buque, á su tripulacion, á los esclavos, si hubiere algunos, y á su cargamento, entre el periodo de su detencion y el tiempo de entregar semejante papel.

ARTICLE IV.

The slaves shall not be disembarked till after the vessel which contains them shall have arrived at the place of adjudication; and even after the vessel has arrived at such place, they shall not be landed without the permission of the proper tribunal, except in the cases hereinafter specified in respect to slaves found on board Granadian vessels.

But if urgent reasons, deduced from the length of the voyage, from the state of health of the slaves, or from other causes, should require that either the whole or a portion of the slaves should be disembarked, or should be transhipped before the vessel can arrive at the port at which the proper tribunal is established, or after her arrival there, and before adjudication, the commander of the capturing ship may take upon himself the responsibility of so disembarking or transshipping the slaves; provided that such necessity, and the causes thereof, be stated in a certificate in proper form, and that this certificate be entered at the time in the log-book of the detained vessel.

ARTICLE V.

All such British vessels as shall be detained on the Brazilian station by Granadian cruisers, shall be carried and delivered up to the British jurisdiction at the colony of Demerara.

All such British vessels as shall be detained on the West India station by Granadian cruisers, shall be carried and delivered up to the British jurisdiction at Port Royal, in Jamaica.

All such British vessels as shall be detained on the Madagascar station, or on the east coast of Africa, by Granadian cruisers, shall be carried and delivered up to the British jurisdiction at the Cape of Good Hope, or at the Mauritius, as may be most convenient.

All such British vessels as shall be detained on the African station by Granadian cruisers, shall be carried and delivered up to British jurisdiction at Bathurst, on the River Gambia.

All such Granadian vessels as shall be detained on the Brazilian and West India stations, as well as on those of Madagascar and Africa, by British

ARTICULO IV.

Los esclavos no serán desembarcados hasta despues que el buque que los contiene haya llegado al lugar del juzgamiento; y aun despues que el buque haya llegado á tal lugar, no serán desembarcados sin el permiso del tribunal competente, excepto en los casos que van á especificarse aqui respecto de los esclavos hallados abordo de buques Granadinos.

Pero si razones urgentes, deducidas de lo largo del viaje, del estado de salud de los esclavos, ó de otras causas, requirieren que el todo ó una porcion de los esclavos hayan de desembarcarse ó de trasbordarse antes que el buque pueda llegar al puerto en que esté establecido el tribunal competente, ó despues de su llegada alli y antes del juzgamiento, el comandante del buque apresador puede tomar sobre si la responsabilidad de desembarcar ó trasbordar en este caso los esclavos, con tal que esta necesidad, y las causas de ella, se especifiquen en un certificado en debida forma, y que este certificado se asiente en aquella sazon en el diario de navegacion del buque detenido.

ARTICULO V.

Todos aquellos buques Britanicos que fueren detenidos en la estacion del Brasil por cruceros Granadinos, serán llevados y entregados á la jurisdiccion Britanica en la colonia de Demerara.

Todos los buques Britanicos que fueren detenidos en la estacion de las Indias Occidentales por cruceros Granadinos, serán llevados y entregados á la jurisdiccion Britanica en Puerto Real en Jamaica.

Todos los buques Britanicos que fueren detenidos en la estacion de Madagascar, ó en la costa oriental de Africa, por cruceros Granadinos, serán llevados y entregados á la jurisdiccion Britanica en el Cabo de Buena Esperanza, ó en las Islas Mauricias, segun fuere mas conveniente.

Todos los buques Britanicos que fueren detenidos en la estacion Africana por cruceros Granadinos, serán llevados y entregados á la jurisdiccion Britanica en Bathurst en el Rio Gambia.

Todos los buques Granadinos que fueren detenidos por cruceros Britanicos en las estaciones del Brasil y de las Indias Occidentales, igualmente que

cruizers, shall be carried and delivered up to the Granadian jurisdiction at any of the ports belonging to the Republic of New Granada, except when slaves shall be found on board at the time of the capture; in which case, the vessel shall, in the first instance, be sent or carried to deposit the slaves at the port to which the vessel would have been taken for trial if she had been detained under the British flag. The vessel, with the rest of her cargo and crew, shall afterwards be sent on and delivered to the Granadian jurisdiction at any of the ports belonging to the Republic, as above stipulated.

en las de Madagascar y Africa, serán llevados y entregados á la jurisdiccion Granadina en cualquiera de los puertos pertenecientes á la República de la Nueva Granada, excepto cuando se hayan encontrado abordo esclavos al tiempo de la captura; en cuyo evento el buque en el primer caso será enviado ó llevado á depositar los esclavos al puerto en que el buque habria sido tomado para su juzgamiento, si hubiese sido detenido bajo la bandera Britanica. El buque, con el resto de su cargamento y con su tripulacion, será despues enviado y entregado á la jurisdiccion Granadina en cualquiera de los puertos pertenecientes á la Republica, como se ha estipulado arriba.

The undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed, in conformity with Article VI of the Treaty signed by them on this day, the second day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, that the present Appendix, which contains Five Articles, shall be annexed to the said Treaty, and shall be considered as an integral part thereof.

Los infrascritos Plenipotenciarios han convenido, en conformidad con el Artículo VI del Tratado firmado por ellos en este dia, que es el dia dos de Abril en el año de nuestro Señor mil ocho cientos cincuenta y uno, que el presente Apendice, que contiene Cinco Articulos, será agregado al dicho Tratado, y se le considerará como parte integrante de él.

The second day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

A dos de Abril, en el año de nuestro Señor mil ocho cientos cincuenta y uno.

DANIEL F. O'LEARY. (L.S.)
VICT^o DE D. PAREDES. (L.S.)

VICT^o DE D. PAREDES. (L.S.)
DANIEL F. O'LEARY. (L.S.)

TREATY between Her Majesty and the Republic of
New Granada, for the Suppression of the Slave
Trade.

Signed at Bogotá, April 9, 1851.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Com-
mand of Her Majesty. 1852.*

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,

FOR THE

MUTUAL SURRENDER OF CRIMINALS.

Signed at London, May 28, 1852.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1852.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON.

CONVENTION
BETWEEN
HER MAJESTY
AND
THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,
FOR
THE MUTUAL SURRENDER OF CRIMINALS.

Signed at London, May 28, 1852.

[*Ratifications exchanged at London, June 2, 1852.*]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Prince President of the French Republic, having found that the Convention concluded between Great Britain and France, on the 13th of February, 1843, for the mutual surrender of criminals, has not completely attained its intended object, have deemed it expedient to conclude a new Convention on the subject, and have for that purpose named as their respective Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable James Howard, Earl of Malmesbury, Viscount Fitzharris, Baron Malmesbury, a Peer of the United Kingdom, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

And the Prince President of the French Republic, the Sieur Alexandre Colonna Count Walewski, Commander of the National Order of the Legion of Honour, Grand Cross of the Order of St. Januarius of the Two Sicilies, Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of St. Joseph of Tuscany, Ambassador of the French Republic to Her Britannic Majesty;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

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SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et le Prince Président de la République Française, ayant reconnu que la Convention conclue le 13 Février, 1843, entre la Grande Bretagne et la France, pour l'extradition réciproque des malfaiteurs, n'a point complètement atteint le but proposé, ont jugé convenable de conclure à ce sujet une nouvelle Convention, et ont nommé à cet effet pour leurs Plénipotentiaires respectifs, savoir:

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Très Honorable Jacques Howard, Comte de Malmesbury, Vicomte Fitzharris, Baron Malmesbury, Pair du Royaume Uni, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, et Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour les Affaires Etrangères;

Et le Prince Président de la République Française, le Sieur Alexandre Colonna Comte Walewski, Commandeur de l'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre de Saint Janvier des Deux Siciles, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre du Mérite de Saint Joseph de Toscane, Ambassadeur de la République Française près Sa Majesté Britannique;

Lesquels, après s'être réciproquement communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs respectifs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des Articles suivans:—

B 2

ARTICLE I.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty and the French Government shall, on requisition made in their name by their respective Diplomatic Agents, deliver up to each other reciprocally, any persons, except native subjects or citizens of the Party upon whom the requisition may be made, who, being convicted or accused of any of the crimes hereinafter specified, committed within the jurisdiction of the requiring Party, shall be found within the territories of the other Party.

ARTICLE II.

The surrender shall be made on account of the following crimes, which, however differently denominated in the respective legislations, are punishable under both with grave penalties, namely :—

1. The crime provided for and punished in France under the denomination of *homicide volontaire*, and in the United Kingdom under that of *murder*; whatever may be the means, the instrument, or the substance employed for the commission thereof.

It is understood that the surrender shall be made for an attempt to commit murder (*homicide volontaire*) as well as for that crime itself.

2. The crime of *procuring abortion*: provided for and punished in France and in the United Kingdom under the same denomination.

3. The crime provided for and punished in France under the denomination of *viol*, and in the United Kingdom under that of *rape*; including the crime of having carnal knowledge without violence of a girl under ten years of age, which is also provided for by the French Penal Code, and is punished in the same manner as *rape* in the United Kingdom.

4. *Blows and wounds followed by death*: a crime provided for and punished by the French Penal Code; and punished also in England and Ireland under the denomination of *manslaughter*, and in Scotland under the denomination of *culpable homicide*.

5. *Menaces in writing*, with an order to deposit a sum of money, or to perform any other condition: a crime provided for and punished by the French Penal Code; in England and Ireland under the denomination of *sending or*

ARTICLE I.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique et le Gouvernement Français se livreront réciproquement, chacun à l'exception de ses nationaux, sur la demande faite en leur nom par leurs Agens Diplomatiques respectifs, les individus qui, étant condamnés ou poursuivis pour l'un des crimes ci-après énumérés, commis dans la juridiction de la Partie réquérante, seraient trouvés sur le territoire de l'autre Partie.

ARTICLE II.

L'extradition sera accordée à raison des crimes suivans, lesquels, quelle que soit d'ailleurs leur dénomination différente dans les deux législations, sont également punis par l'une et par l'autre de peines graves, savoir :—

1°. Le crime prévu et puni en France sous la dénomination de *homicide volontaire*, et dans le Royaume Uni sous celle de *murder*; quels que soient d'ailleurs le moyen, l'instrument, ou la substance employés pour le commettre.

Il est entendu que la tentative d'homicide volontaire (*murder*) pourra, comme le crime lui-même, donner lieu à l'extradition.

2°. Le crime de *procurer l'avortement*: prévu et puni en France et dans le Royaume Uni sous une pareille dénomination.

3°. Le crime prévu et puni en France sous la dénomination de *viol*, et dans le Royaume Uni sous celle de *rape*; y compris l'attentat consommé sans violence si la victime a moins de dix ans; crime également prévu par le Code Pénal Français, et puni comme *rape* dans le Royaume Uni.

4°. Les coups et blessures suivis de mort: crime prévu et puni par le Code Pénal Français; et puni aussi en Angleterre et en Irlande sous la dénomination de *manslaughter*, et en Ecosse sous la dénomination de *culpable homicide*.

5°. Les menaces par écrit, avec ordre de déposer une somme d'argent, ou de remplir toute autre condition: crime prévu et puni par le Code Pénal Français; en Angleterre et en Irlande sous la dénomination de *sending or delivering*

delivering a letter or writing demanding with menaces, &c.; and in Scotland under the denomination of *sending threatening or incendiary letters*.

6. *Bigamy*: a crime provided for and punished in France and in the United Kingdom under the same denomination.

7. *Carrying off a child*: a crime provided for and punished in France under that denomination by the Penal Code; in England and Ireland under the denomination of *child-stealing*; and in Scotland under the denomination of *theft or child-stealing*.

8. *False evidence*: a crime provided for and punished in France under that denomination by the Penal Code; by the English and Irish Law under the denomination of *perjury*; and in Scotland under the denomination of *perjury or false affirmation*.

9. *Subornation of witnesses*: a crime provided for and punished under that denomination by the French Penal Code, and by the Law of the United Kingdom under the denomination of *subornation of perjury*.

10. *Counterfeiting or altering money, or uttering counterfeit or altered money*: crimes provided for and punished in France and in the United Kingdom under the same denominations.

11. *Counterfeiting the Seal of the State, or using the counterfeit Seal; counterfeiting or falsifying of public securities and bank-notes authorized by law; using such counterfeit securities and notes, or introducing such counterfeit securities and notes*: crimes provided for and punished in France by the Penal Code; in the United Kingdom under similar denominations; and in Scotland also under the denomination of *falsehood and forgery*.

12. *Counterfeiting the puncheons used for marking articles of gold and silver; and using the counterfeit puncheons*: crimes provided for and punished in France by the Penal Code; and in the United Kingdom under the same denominations.

13. *Counterfeiting the public stamps; and using the counterfeit stamps*: crimes provided for and punished in France and in the United Kingdom under the same denominations.

14. *Forgery of public written instruments, or written instruments of commerce or banking, or private written instruments, and using such forged instruments*: crimes provided for and punished in France by the Penal Code; in England and Ireland under the denomination of *feloniously forging and utter-*

a letter or writing demanding with menaces, &c.; et en Ecosse sous la dénomination de *sending threatening or incendiary letters*.

6°. *La bigamie*: crime prévu et puni en France et dans le Royaume Uni sous une pareille dénomination.

7°. *L'enlèvement d'un enfant*: crime prévu et puni en France sous cette dénomination par le Code Pénal; en Angleterre et en d'Irlande sous la dénomination de *child-stealing*; et en Ecosse sous la dénomination de *theft or child-stealing*.

8°. *Le faux témoignage*: crime prévu et puni en France sous cette dénomination par le Code Pénal; par la Loi Anglaise et Irlandaise sous la dénomination de *perjury*; et en Ecosse sous la dénomination de *perjury or false affirmation*.

9°. *La subornation de témoins*: crime prévu et puni sous cette dénomination par le Code Pénal Français, et par la Loi du Royaume Uni sous la dénomination de *subornation of perjury*.

10°. *La contrefaçon ou l'altération des monnaies, ou l'émission de monnaies contrefaites ou altérées*: crimes prévus et punis en France et dans le Royaume Uni sous une pareille dénomination.

11°. *La contrefaçon du Sceau de l'Etat, ou l'usage du Sceau contrefait; la contrefaçon ou la falsification des effets publics et des billets de banques autorisés par la loi; l'usage de ces effets et billets contrefaits, ou l'introduction des mêmes effets et billets contrefaits*: crimes prévus et punis en France par le Code Pénal; dans le Royaume Uni sous une pareille dénomination; et en Ecosse aussi sous la dénomination de *falsehood and forgery*.

12°. *La contrefaçon des poinçons servant à marquer les matières d'or et d'argent; et l'usage de ces poinçons contrefaits*: crimes prévus et punis en France par le Code Pénal; et dans le Royaume Uni sous une pareille dénomination.

13°. *La contrefaçon des timbres nationaux; et l'usage de ces timbres contrefaits*: crimes prévus et punis en France et dans le Royaume Uni sous une pareille dénomination.

14°. *Le faux en écriture authentique, ou en écriture de commerce ou de banque, et en écriture privée; et l'usage de ces actes faux*: crimes prévus et punis en France par le Code Pénal; en Angleterre et en Irlande sous la dénomination de *feloniously forging and uttering forged instruments*; et en Ecosse sous

ing forged instruments; and in Scotland under the denomination of *falsehood, forgery, and uttering*.

15. *Burning*: a crime provided for and punished in France by the Penal Code; in England and Ireland under the denomination of *arson and felonious burning*; and in Scotland under the denomination of *wilful fire-raising*.

16. *Stealing, when attended with violence or intimidation* towards the person whose property is stolen: a crime provided for and punished in France by the Penal Code (including the case of *extortion* provided for in Article 400, § 1, of the said Code); and in the United Kingdom under the denomination of *robbery*. The attempt to commit this crime shall not be placed upon the same footing as the crime itself, in regard to surrender, unless it shall have been made by at least two persons, or by a single person armed.

Stealing, or attempting to steal, by night, in an inhabited house, into which the robber has effected an entrance by breaking, scaling, false keys, or any guilty contrivance: a crime provided for and punished, in France by the Penal Code; in England and Ireland, under the denomination of *burglary*; and in Scotland under the denomination of *theft when committed by house-breaking, or house-breaking with intent to steal*.

Stealing in a building devoted to Divine worship: a crime provided for and punished in France by the Penal Code; in England and Ireland under the denomination of *stealing in a church or chapel*; and in Scotland under the denomination of *theft*.

Stealing in the day-time in an inhabited house, or in any place attached (dépendance) to an inhabited house: a crime provided for and punished in France by the Penal Code; in England and Ireland under the denomination of *housebreaking and stealing in a dwelling-house*; and in Scotland under the denomination of *theft*.

The crimes provided for and punished in France under the denomination of *vol domestique et abus de confiance domestique*; in England and Ireland under that of *larceny or embezzlement by clerks or servants*; and in Scotland under those of *theft, breach of trust, and embezzlement*.

17. The crimes provided for and punished in France under the denomination of *soustractions commises par des comptables ou par des dépositaires publics*; in England and Ireland under that of

la dénomination de *falsehood, forgery, and uttering*.

15°. *L'incendie*: crime prévu et puni en France par le Code Pénal; en Angleterre et en Irlande sous la dénomination de *arson and felonious burning*; et en Ecosse sous la dénomination de *wilful fire-raising*.

16°. Le *vol commis à l'aide de la violence ou de l'intimidation* exercée sur la personne volée: crime prévu et puni en France par le Code Pénal (y compris le cas d'extorsion prévu par l'Article 400, § 1, du même Code); et dans le Royaume Uni sous la dénomination de *robbery*. La tentative de ce crime ne sera considérée comme le crime lui-même, en ce qui concerne l'extradition, qu'autant qu'elle aura eu lieu par deux personnes au moins, ou par une seule personne armée.

Le *vol commis ou tenté la nuit dans une maison habitée*, dont le voleur s'est procuré l'entrée à l'aide d'effraction, d'escalade, de fausses clefs, ou par une manœuvre coupable: crime prévu et puni, en France par le Code Pénal; en Angleterre et en Irlande sous la dénomination de *burglary*; et en Ecosse sous la dénomination de *theft when committed by housebreaking, or house-breaking with intent to steal*.

Le *vol commis dans un édifice consacré au Culte*: crime prévu et puni en France par le Code Pénal; en Angleterre et en Irlande sous la dénomination de *stealing in a church or chapel*; et en Ecosse sous la dénomination de *theft*.

Le *vol commis le jour dans une maison habitée, ou dans la dépendance d'une maison habitée*: crime prévu et puni en France par le Code Pénal; en Angleterre et en Irlande sous la dénomination de *housebreaking and stealing in a dwelling-house*; et en Ecosse sous la dénomination de *theft*.

Les crimes prévus et punis en France sous la dénomination de *vol domestique et abus de confiance domestique*; en Angleterre et en Irlande sous celle de *larceny or embezzlement by clerks or servants*; et en Ecosse sous celles de *theft, breach of trust, and embezzlement*.

17°. Les crimes prévus et punis en France sous la dénomination de *soustractions commises par des comptables ou par des dépositaires publics*; en Angleterre et en Irlande sous celle de

embezzlement by public officers; and in Scotland under the same denomination, and also under those of *theft, breach of trust, and embezzlement*.

18. *Fraudulent bankruptcy, and participation in fraudulent bankruptcy*: crimes provided for and punished in France by the Code of Commerce and the Penal Code; and in the United Kingdom under the same denomination; but in those cases only which in the United Kingdom are considered as felony, and punished by the penalty of transportation.

19. The crime of *destroying a ship or other merchant-vessel*, effected by any means whatever, in the cases where it shall have been committed by the captain, master, or pilot charged with the navigation of such ship or vessel: a crime provided for and punished in France by the Law of the 10th of April, 1825; and in the United Kingdom under the same denomination.

The crime provided for and punished in France under the denomination of *baraterie*, and in the United Kingdom under that of *piracy*.

20. The crime of *mutiny among the crew of a ship*; in the case where persons forming part of the crew of a sea-going ship or vessel shall have taken possession thereof by fraud or violence committed upon the captain or commander; and also in the case where they shall have delivered over such ship or vessel to pirates: a crime provided for and punished in France by the Law of the 10th of April, 1825; and in the United Kingdom under the denomination of *piracy*.

The surrender shall however be demanded by either of the two Contracting Parties only in the following cases, that is to say: by the French Government, in those cases in which the acts hereinbefore enumerated shall in France be considered as *crimes*, and be punishable with severe and degrading punishments (*peines afflictives et infamantes*); and by the British Government, in those cases in which the said acts shall be considered as *felonies*, and be punishable with death, or transportation, or imprisonment with hard labour. It shall be sufficient for each Government, in order to prove that its demand is in this respect well founded, to annex thereto the article or articles, clause or clauses, of the law applicable to the act which may give rise to the surrender.

embezzlement by public officers; et en Ecosse sous une pareille dénomination, comme aussi sous celles de *theft, breach of trust, and embezzlement*.

18°. La *banqueroute frauduleuse*, et la *complicité de banqueroute frauduleuse*: crimes prévus et punis en France par le Code de Commerce et le Code Pénal; et dans le Royaume Uni sous une pareille dénomination; mais seulement dans les cas qui sont considérés dans le Royaume Uni comme *felonies*, et punis de la peine de la transportation.

19°. Le crime de *destruction d'un navire ou autre bâtiment de commerce*, opérée par des moyens quelconques, dans le cas où il aurait été commis par le capitaine, maître, patron, ou pilote chargé de la conduite du dit navire ou bâtiment: crime prévu et puni en France par la Loi du 10 Avril, 1825; et dans le Royaume Uni sous une pareille dénomination.

Le crime prévu et puni en France sous la dénomination de *baraterie*, et dans le Royaume Uni sous celle de *piracy*.

20°. Le crime de *sédition parmi l'équipage d'un navire*; dans le cas où des individus faisant partie de l'équipage d'un navire ou bâtiment de mer, se seraient emparés du dit bâtiment par fraude ou violence envers le capitaine ou commandant; et aussi dans le cas où ils auraient livré le dit bâtiment ou navire à des pirates: crime prévu et puni en France par la Loi du 10 Avril, 1825, et dans le Royaume Uni sous la dénomination de *piracy*.

Toutefois, l'extradition ne pourra être demandée par chacune des deux Parties Contractantes que dans les cas ci-après, savoir: par le Gouvernement Français, dans le cas où les actes ci-dessus énumérés seront en France réputés *crimes*, et punissables de peines afflictives ou infamantes; et par le Gouvernement Britannique, dans les cas où les mêmes actes seront considérés comme *felonies*, et punissables de la peine de mort, ou de la transportation, ou de l'emprisonnement avec travail forcé. Il suffira à chaque Gouvernement, pour établir la légitimité de sa demande à cet égard, d'y joindre l'article ou les articles, la clause ou les clauses, de loi applicables au fait qui motivera l'extradition.

ARTICLE III.

On the part of the French Government, the surrender shall be made in the following manner :

The Ambassador or other Diplomatic Agent of Her Britannic Majesty at Paris, shall produce, in support of any demand for surrender, an authentic and duly legalized copy of a certificate of conviction, or of a warrant to apprehend a person indicted, or of a warrant to apprehend a person charged, clearly setting forth the nature of the crime with which the fugitive is charged. The judicial document thus produced shall be accompanied by the description of the person claimed, and by any particulars which may serve to identify him.

The Keeper of the Seals, Minister of Justice, shall examine the demand and the documents in support thereof; he shall forthwith address a report thereon to the President of the Republic; and, if there be found due cause, a presidential decree shall grant the surrender of the individual claimed, and shall order that he be arrested and delivered up to the English authorities.

In consequence of such decree, the Minister of the Interior shall give orders that the individual claimed may be sought for, and when arrested, may be conducted to the frontier of France, in order to be there delivered to the person appointed to receive him on the part of the English Government.

If it should happen that the documents produced by the English Government in order to identify the person claimed, and the particulars collected by the agents of the French police for the same purpose, should prove insufficient, notice thereof shall immediately be given to the Ambassador or other Diplomatic Agent of Her Britannic Majesty at Paris; and the individual claimed shall, if he is in custody, continue to be detained until the English Government shall be enabled to produce further proof of his identity.

ARTICLE III.

De la part du Gouvernement Français, l'extradition aura lieu ainsi qu'il suit :

L'Ambassadeur ou autre Agent Diplomatique de Sa Majesté Britannique à Paris, joindra à l'appui de chaque demande d'extradition, l'expédition authentique et dûment légalisée soit d'un certificat de condamnation (*certificate of conviction*), soit d'un mandat d'arrêt contre une personne accusée (*warrant to apprehend a person indicted*), ou d'un mandat d'arrêt contre une personne poursuivie (*warrant to apprehend a person charged*), faisant clairement connaître la nature du crime à raison duquel le fugitif est poursuivi. Le document judiciaire ainsi produit sera accompagné du signalement et des autres renseignemens pouvant servir à constater l'identité de l'individu réclamé.

M. le Garde des Sceaux, Ministre de la Justice, examinera la demande et les pièces à l'appui; il en fera l'objet d'un rapport immédiat au Président de la République; et, s'il y a lieu, un décret présidentiel accordera l'extradition de l'individu réclamé, et ordonnera qu'il soit arrêté et livré aux autorités Anglaises.

En conséquence de ce décret, M. le Ministre de l'Intérieur donnera des ordres pour que l'individu poursuivi soit recherché, et, en cas d'arrestation, conduit jusqu'à la frontière de France, pour y être livré à la personne chargée de le recevoir de la part du Gouvernement Anglais.

S'il arrivait que les documens produits par le Gouvernement Anglais pour constater l'identité, et les renseignemens recueillis par les agens de la police Française pour le même objet, fussent reconnus insuffisans, avis en sera donné immédiatement à l'Ambassadeur ou autre Agent Diplomatique de Sa Majesté Britannique à Paris; et l'individu poursuivi, s'il a été arrêté, continuera à être détenu, en attendant que le Gouvernement Anglais ait pu produire de nouveaux élémens de preuve pour constater son identité.

ARTICLE IV.

On the part of the English Government, the surrender shall be made in the following manner :

The Ambassador or other Diplomatic Agent of France at London, shall produce to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty either a sentence of conviction (*arrêt de condamnation*) or a warrant for apprehension (*mandat d'arrêt*), clearly setting forth the nature of the crime with which the fugitive is charged. Such document shall be accompanied by the description of the person convicted or accused, and by any other particulars which may serve to identify him.

The said document, when legalized by the Ambassador or other Diplomatic Agent of France at London, shall be considered as proof positive that the individual therein named has been convicted, or is lawfully accused, of having committed a crime cognizable by the French Tribunals. Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department shall examine the judicial acts to be produced, as above provided, in the name of the French Government ; and after having verified the authenticity of those documents, and ascertained that the crime therein specified is one of those described in the present Convention, he shall issue his warrant to a Magistrate, in order to notify to him that the surrender of the person named in the documents produced has been regularly demanded by the French Government conformably to the Convention ; and that in consequence such person is to be arrested, in whatever part of the United Kingdom he may have taken refuge, and delivered up to the French authorities.

On receipt of such warrant, the Magistrate shall immediately issue his warrant directing the police to seek for and arrest such person, and to bring him before himself, or some other Magistrate. The person who may be in consequence arrested by the police shall be brought before the Magistrate ; and the Magistrate, after having satisfied himself as to the identity of the individual arrested, either by the confession or acquiescence of such individual, or by other sufficient proof, which may be either direct, or presumptive and circumstantial, shall

ARTICLE IV.

De la part du Gouvernement Anglais, l'extradition aura lieu de la manière suivante :

L'Ambassadeur ou autre Agent Diplomatique de France à Londres, produira au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique soit un arrêt de condamnation, soit un mandat d'arrêt, faisant clairement connaître la nature du crime à raison duquel le fugitif est poursuivi. A ce document seront joints le signalement du condamné ou du prévenu, et les autres renseignements et indications pouvant servir à faire reconnaître son identité.

Le même document, revêtu de la légalisation de l'Ambassadeur ou autre Agent Diplomatique de France à Londres, sera considéré comme une preuve positive que l'individu qui s'y trouve nommé a été condamné, ou qu'il est légitimement poursuivi, comme ayant commis un crime justiciable des Tribunaux Français. Le Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique pour le Ministère de l'Intérieur examinera les actes judiciaires produits, ainsi qu'il vient d'être dit, au nom du Gouvernement Français ; et après avoir vérifié l'authenticité de ces documens, et avoir reconnu que le crime qui s'y trouve spécifié est un de ceux prévus dans la présente Convention, il adressera son warrant à un Magistrat pour lui notifier que l'extradition de la personne désignée dans les documens produits a été régulièrement demandée par le Gouvernement Français conformément à la Convention ; et qu'en conséquence cette personne doit être arrêtée, quel que soit le lieu du Royaume Uni où elle se soit réfugiée, et remise aux autorités Françaises.

A la réception de ce warrant, le Magistrat devra immédiatement délivrer son warrant ordonnant à la police de rechercher et d'arrêter cette personne, et de la conduire devant lui ou devant un autre Magistrat. La personne qui sera arrêtée par la police en conséquence, sera amenée devant le Magistrat ; et ce Magistrat, après s'être assuré de l'identité de l'individu arrêté, soit par le propre aveu ou l'acquiescement de cet individu, soit par d'autres preuves suffisantes, lesquelles pourront être ou directes, ou présomptives

order that such individual shall be conducted to the frontier of the United Kingdom, in order to be there delivered to the person appointed to receive him on the part of the French Government.

If, in those cases where there may be no direct proof, it should happen that after an attentive examination on the part of the magistrate, the circumstantial proof should be found insufficient, notice thereof shall immediately be given to the Ambassador or other Diplomatic Agent of France; and the individual claimed shall be detained in custody a sufficient time for the French Government to furnish to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty any further proof which it may be able to produce, in order to identify such individual.

ARTICLE V.

Any person claimed, who may be detained in custody in either of the two countries, in conformity with the stipulations of the two preceding Articles, shall be set at liberty if, within one month after the day of his arrest, the Government which claims his surrender shall not have furnished the further evidence which it has been required to produce in proof of his identity.

The period of such detention shall be lengthened to a reasonable extent, in case the individual who shall have taken refuge in one of the two countries shall have committed his crime in a colonial possession of the other, or in a country placed under its protectorate; and reciprocally, in case he shall have committed his crime in one of the two countries, and have taken refuge in a colonial possession of the other.

ARTICLE VI.

In any case where an individual convicted or accused in France of any of the crimes described in the present Convention, and who shall have taken refuge in the United Kingdom, shall have obtained naturalization in England subsequently to his conviction or accusation, such naturalization shall not prevent the search for, arrest, and surrender of such individual to the French authorities, in conformity with the said Convention.

In like manner the surrender shall

et circonstancielle, ordonnera que cet individu soit conduit à la frontière du Royaume Uni, pour y être livré à la personne chargée de le recevoir de la part du Gouvernement Français.

Dans les cas où il n'y aura pas de preuves directes, s'il arrivait qu'après un examen attentif de la part du magistrat, les preuves circonstancielle fussent reconnues insuffisantes, avis en sera donné immédiatement à l'Ambassadeur ou autre Agent Diplomatique de France; et l'individu réclamé sera maintenu en arrestation pendant le temps nécessaire pour que le Gouvernement Français fournisse à celui de Sa Majesté Britannique les nouveaux élémens de preuve qui seraient en son pouvoir, à l'effet de constater l'identité du même individu.

ARTICLE V.

L'individu poursuivi qui sera maintenu en arrestation dans l'un des deux pays contractans, conformément aux dispositions des deux Articles précédens, sera mis en liberté si, dans le mois à compter du jour de son arrestation, le Gouvernement réclamant l'extradition n'a pas fourni les nouveaux élémens de preuve qui lui auront été demandés à l'effet de constater l'identité.

La durée de cette détention sera augmentée dans une proportion raisonnable, dans le cas où l'individu réfugié dans l'un des deux pays aurait commis son crime dans une des possessions coloniales de l'autre, ou dans un des pays placés sous son protectorat; et réciproquement, dans le cas où, ayant commis son crime dans l'un des deux pays, il se serait réfugié dans une des possessions coloniales de l'autre.

ARTICLE VI.

Dans le cas où un individu condamné ou accusé en France pour un des crimes prévus dans la présente Convention, et réfugié dans le Royaume Uni, serait parvenu à se faire naturaliser sujet Anglais postérieurement à la condamnation ou à l'accusation dont il est l'objet, cette naturalisation ne mettra aucun obstacle à ce que la recherche, l'arrestation, et la remise de cet individu aux autorités Françaises aient lieu conformément à la même Convention.

L'extradition aura lieu pareillement

take place on the part of France in any case where an individual accused or convicted in England of any of the same crimes, who shall have taken refuge in France, shall under the same circumstances have obtained naturalization in France.

ARTICLE VII.

No accused or convicted person who may be surrendered, shall, in any case, be proceeded against or punished on account of any political offence committed prior to his being surrendered, nor for any crime or offence not described in the present Convention, which he may have committed previously to his being surrendered; and proof of having been so surrendered under this Convention shall be a good and valid defence against any proceeding on account of any political offence previously committed, and shall entitle the party to an immediate acquittal.

ARTICLE VIII.

The surrender shall not take place if, since the commission of the acts charged, the accusation, or the conviction, exemption from prosecution or punishment has been acquired by lapse of time, according to the laws of the country where the accused shall have taken refuge.

ARTICLE IX.

If the individual claimed should be under prosecution, or in custody, for a crime or offence committed in the country where he may have taken refuge, his surrender may be deferred until he shall have suffered his punishment.

In case he should be proceeded against or detained in such country, on account of obligations contracted towards private individuals, his surrender shall nevertheless take place, the injured party retaining his right to prosecute his claims before the competent authority.

ARTICLE X.

If the person accused or convicted should not be the subject of that one of the two States by which he is

de la part de la France dans le cas où un individu poursuivi ou condamné en Angleterre pour un des mêmes crimes, et réfugié en France, aurait obtenu dans les mêmes circonstances la naturalisation Française.

ARTICLE VII.

Le prévenu ou le condamné dont l'extradition aura été accordée, ne pourra être, dans aucun cas, poursuivi ou puni pour aucun délit politique antérieur à l'extradition, ni pour aucun des crimes ou délits non prévus par la présente Convention, qu'il aurait commis antérieurement à l'extradition; et la preuve qu'on a été extradé en vertu de la présente Convention sera considérée comme un moyen de défense bon et valable contre les poursuites qui seraient exercées en raison d'un délit politique antérieurement commis, et entraînera l'acquiescement immédiat du prévenu.

ARTICLE VIII.

L'extradition ne pourra avoir lieu si depuis les faits imputés, la poursuite, ou la condamnation, la prescription de l'action ou de la peine est acquise, d'après les lois du pays où le prévenu s'est réfugié.

ARTICLE IX.

Si l'individu réclamé est poursuivi ou se trouve détenu pour un crime ou délit qu'il a commis dans le pays où il s'est réfugié, son extradition pourra être différée jusqu'à ce qu'il ait subi sa peine.

Dans le cas où il serait poursuivi ou détenu dans le même pays, à raison d'obligations par lui contractées envers des particuliers, son extradition aura lieu néanmoins, sauf à la partie lésée à poursuivre ses droits devant l'autorité compétente.

ARTICLE X.

Si le prévenu ou le condamné n'est pas sujet de celui des deux Etats qui le réclame, il ne pourra être livré qu'après

claimed, he shall not be surrendered until after the Government to which he belongs shall have been consulted, and have had sufficient opportunity to state any reasons which it may have for opposing the surrender. In every such case, the Government upon which the demand is made shall be free to take such decision as it may think fit, and to deliver up the accused to be tried either in his native country, or in the country where the crime shall have been committed.

If the individual claimed by one of the two Contracting Parties, in pursuance of the present Convention, should be also claimed by one or several other Powers, on account of other crimes committed upon their territory, his surrender shall, in preference, be granted in compliance with that demand which is earliest in date; unless any other arrangement should be made between the Governments which have claimed him, either on account of the gravity of the crimes committed, or for any other reasons.

ARTICLE XI.

Every article found in the possession of the individual claimed at the time of his arrest, shall be seized, in order to be delivered up with his person at the time when the surrender shall be made. Such delivery shall not be limited to the property or articles obtained by stealing or by fraudulent bankruptcy, but shall extend to every thing that may serve as proof of the crime. It shall take place even when the surrender, after having been ordered, shall be prevented from taking place by reason of the escape or death of the individual claimed.

ARTICLE XII.

Each of the two Contracting Parties shall defray the expenses occasioned by the arrest within its territories, the detention, and the conveyance to its frontier, of the persons whom it may consent to surrender in pursuance of the present Convention.

ARTICLE XIII.

The stipulations of the present Convention shall be applicable as well to the respective colonial possessions of

que le Gouvernement auquel il appartient aura été consulté, et mis en demeure de faire connaître les motifs qu'il pourrait avoir de s'opposer à l'extradition. Dans tous les cas, le Gouvernement saisi de la demande restera libre d'y donner la suite qui lui paraîtra convenable, et de livrer le prévenu pour être jugé, soit à son pays natal, soit au pays où le crime aura été commis.

Si l'individu réclamé par l'une des deux Parties Contractantes, aux termes de la présente Convention, se trouvait également réclamé par une ou plusieurs autres Puissances, à raison d'autres crimes commis sur leur territoire, son extradition sera préférablement accordée à la demande qui sera la première en date; à moins qu'il n'en soit différemment disposé entre les Gouvernements réclamans par des motifs tirés, soit du degré de gravité du crime, soit d'autres considérations.

ARTICLE XI.

Tous les objets trouvés en la possession de l'individu réclamé lors de son arrestation, seront saisis, pour être livrés avec sa personne au moment où s'effectuera l'extradition. Cette remise ne se bornera pas aux valeurs ou aux objets quelconques provenant de vol ou de banqueroute frauduleuse, mais elle comprendra tous ceux qui pourraient servir à la preuve du crime. De plus elle sera effectuée dans le cas même où l'extradition, ayant été ordonnée, ne pourrait avoir lieu néanmoins par suite de l'évasion ou de la mort de l'individu réclamé.

ARTICLE XII.

Chacune des deux Parties Contractantes supportera les frais occasionnés par l'arrestation sur son territoire, la détention, et le transport à sa frontière, des individus dont elle accordera l'extradition en vertu de la présente Convention.

ARTICLE XIII.

Les dispositions de la présente Convention sont applicables, tant aux possessions coloniales respectives des deux

the two Contracting Parties, as to the countries placed under their protectorate. Article IX of the Treaty of the 7th of March, 1815, shall, however, continue in force in regard to the respective possessions of the said Parties in the East Indies.

It is further agreed that any demands for surrender which may be made in pursuance of the present Article, may be disposed of by the respective Governors of the said possessions or countries; such Governors being, however, bound ultimately to report the affair to their respective Governments at home.

ARTICLE XIV.

The stipulations of the present Convention shall in no wise be applicable to crimes committed previously to the 13th of February, 1843, the date of the former Convention concluded between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE XV.

Her Britannic Majesty engages to recommend to Parliament to pass an Act to enable her to carry into execution the arrangements of the present Convention. When such an Act shall have been passed, the Convention shall come into operation from and after a day to be then fixed upon by the two High Contracting Parties; and due notice shall be given beforehand by the Government of each country, of the day which may be so fixed upon.

The Convention shall continue in force until six months after either of the two Contracting Parties shall have given notice to the other of its intention to terminate its operation. Such notice, however, shall not be given before the 1st of January, 1854.

ARTICLE XVI.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London as soon as may be within three weeks from the date of signature.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Parties. Contractantes, qu'aux pays placés sous leur protectorat. Toutefois l'Article IX du Traité du 7 Mars, 1815, continuera à être en vigueur en ce qui concerne les possessions respectives des dites Parties dans les Indes Orientales.

Il est de plus convenu que les demandes d'extradition qui seraient formées en exécution du présent Article, pourront être traitées entre les Gouverneurs respectifs des dites possessions ou des dits pays; sauf aux dits Gouverneurs à rendre ultérieurement compte de l'affaire aux Gouvernements métropolitains respectifs.

ARTICLE XIV.

Les dispositions de la présente Convention ne seront en aucune manière applicables aux crimes commis antérieurement au 13 Février, 1843, date de la Convention précédemment conclue entre les Parties Contractantes.

ARTICLE XV.

Sa Majesté Britannique s'engage à recommander au Parlement d'adopter une loi qui l'autorise à mettre en vigueur les dispositions de la présente Convention. Lorsque cette loi aura été adoptée, la Convention sera mise à exécution à partir d'un jour qui sera alors fixé par les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes; et dans chaque pays le Gouvernement fera dûment connaître d'avance le jour ainsi convenu.

La Convention ne cessera que six mois après que l'une des deux Parties Contractantes aura notifié à l'autre son intention d'y mettre fin, sans que cette dénonciation puisse avoir lieu néanmoins avant le 1er Janvier, 1854.

ARTICLE XVI.

La présente Convention sera ratifiée, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Londres le plus tôt que faire se pourra dans le délai de trois semaines à compter du jour de la signature.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signée, et y ont apposé les cachets de leurs armes.

Done at London, the twenty-eighth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two.

Fait à Londres, le vingt-huit Mai, l'an de grâce mil huit cent cinquante-deux.

(L.S.) MALMESBURY.

(L.S.) A. WALEWSKI.

(L.S.) MALMESBURY.

(L.S.) A. WALEWSKI.

FRANCE.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the French Republic, for the Mutual Surrender of Criminals.

Signed at London, May 28, 1852.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by
Command of Her Majesty. 1852.*

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